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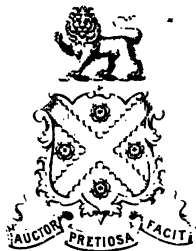
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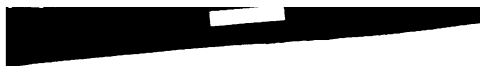
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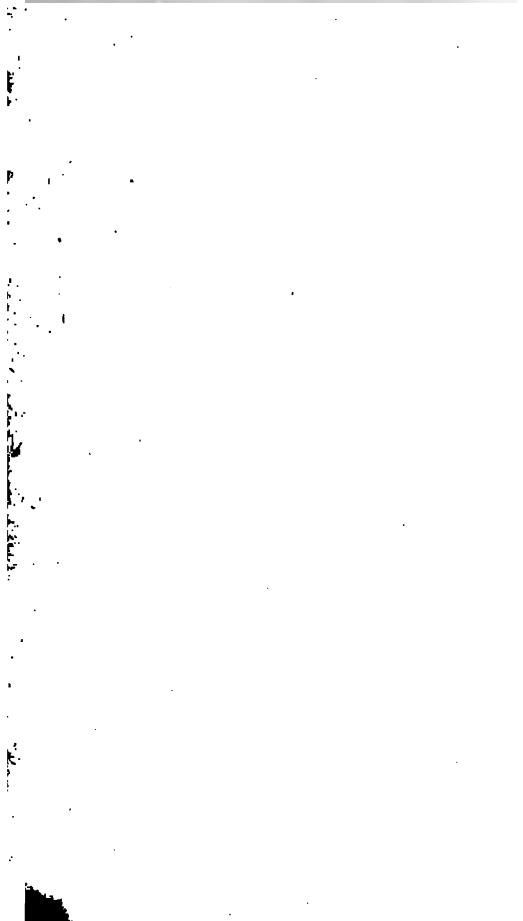
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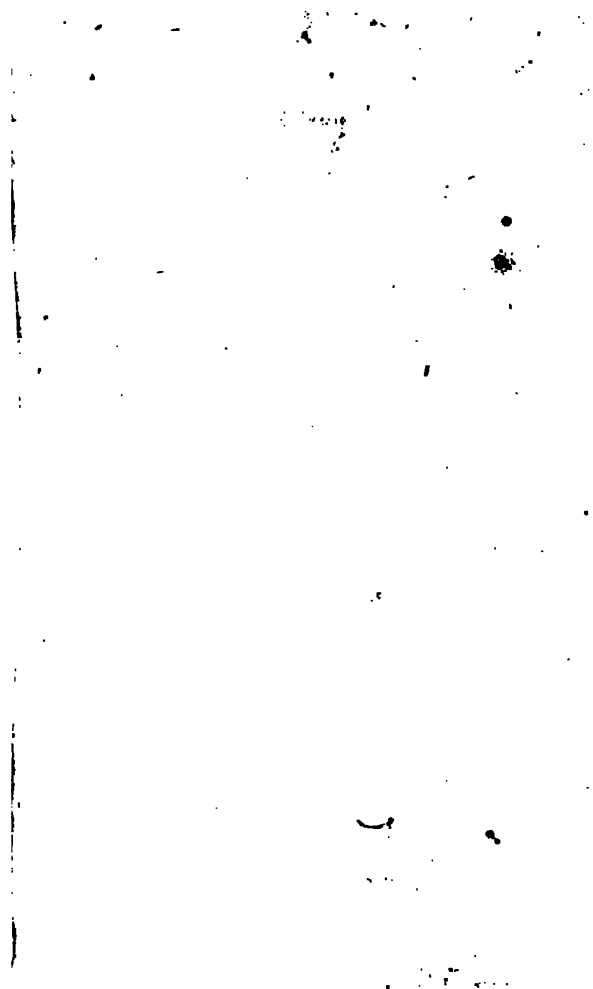
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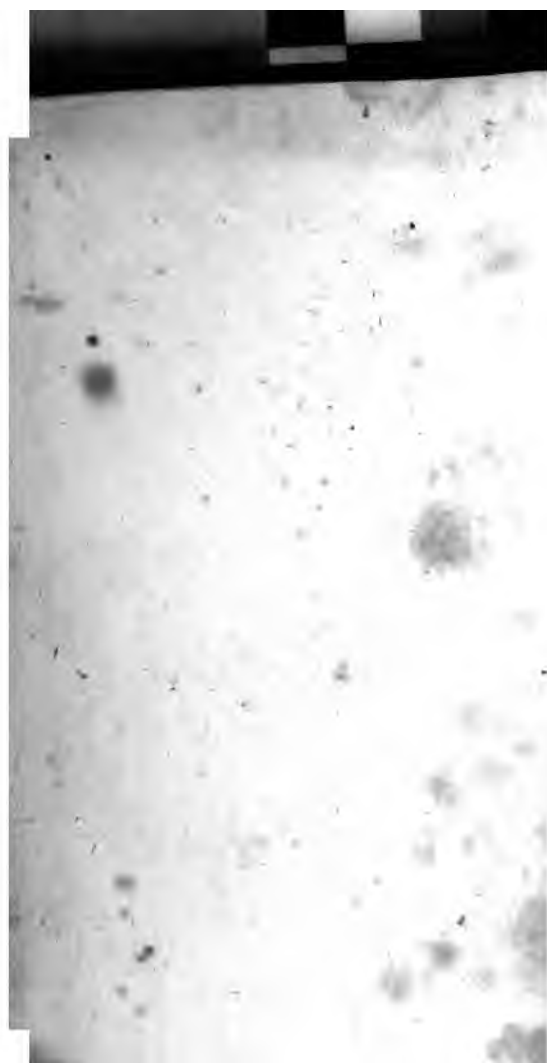
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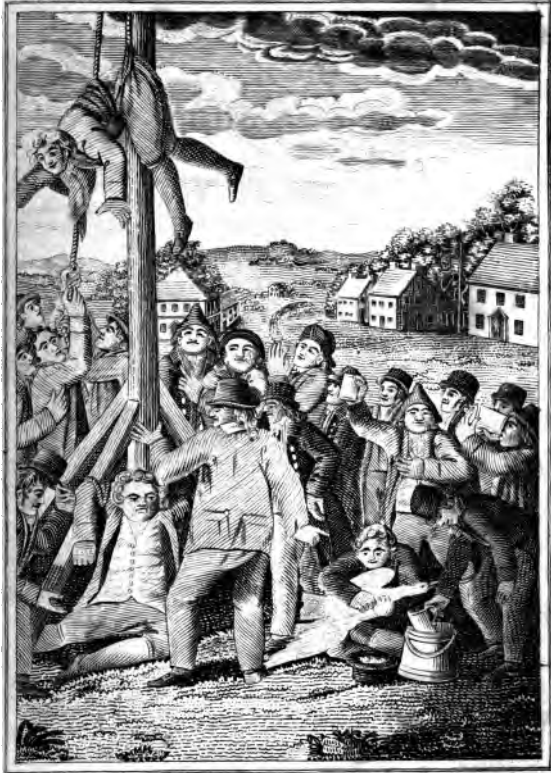




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The TORY'S Day of JUDGMENT

M'FINGAL:

A MODERN EPIC POEM,

IN FOUR CANTOS.

By JOHN TRUMBULL, Esq.

WITH EXPLANATORY NOTES AND PLATES.

**Ergo non satis est risu diducere rictum
Auditoris: et est quædam tamen hic quoque virtus,
Est brevitæ opus ut currat sententia, neu se
Impediat verbis lassas onerantibus aures.
Et sermone opus est modo tristi, sæpe jocoso,
Defendente vicem modo Rhetoris, atque Poetæ,
Interdum urbani, parentis viribus atque
Extenuantis eas consulto. Ridiculum acri
Fortius et melius magnas plerumque secatur res.**

Horat. Lib. 1. Sat. 10



HUDSON:

PUBLISHED BY W. E. NORMAN

.....
1815.



PREFACE.

following Poem was first published in 1782, at New-Haven, in the State of Connecticut, where the Author was born, and where he received his education, and where he now resides.—It has since passed through several impressions in this country, and has obtained universal celebrity in Great Britain, and has obtained universal celebra-

tion in America. In 1822, a splendid edition of it appeared in London, with copious explanatory notes. So far as these notes contain matter that serves to elucidate passages, which would be obscure, they are retained in this edition: But the London edition was published to answer the purport of the first party, and the Editor has taken the liberty to insert the views of the Author, the preface and the notes as were inserted for that purpose, are

The design of the Poem will best appear from its title. The Author, at the time the opposition was made to the unjust claims of the British Parlia-

ment was maturing into system, lived in Boston with one of the principal projectors of American Independence.— He espoused the cause of his country, and became intimately acquainted with the transactions of the early revolutionists, and all the measures of the British agents, to counteract the opposition. This appears by a number of Anecdotes, very humorously related, in the course of the Poem.

That the Author is a warm friend of American Independence, is obvious, from the whole tenor of the work ; and the principal scope of the Poem seems to have been, to ridicule the claims of the British Parliament, and the measures pursued to enforce those claims. At the same time, the absurdities and misconduct of his own countrymen have not escaped his notice.

The Author is no friend to monarchy, nor aristocracy ; nor is he a raving democrat. He is a friend of republican government, and rational liberty—that liberty which is secured by just laws, and a steady administration of justice. But it is not true that the Poem was written with the sole view to ridicule any particular form of government.

The scene of the Poem is laid in Massachusetts, where the Revolution originated. The time is in 1775. M'FINGAL the hero, is designed to represent the Tory faction in general : and HONORABLE, the Whigs.

It is unnecessary to say any thing of the merit of the

PREFACE.

v

Poem. This is universally acknowledged; and the **Poem** will continue to be read and admired, while true taste and science adorn the civilized world. The philosopher in his closét, the traveller on his voyage, and the man of business at his fire-side, will always find **M'FINGAL**, an instructive friend, and a pleasant companion.

A 2



THE Notes in this Edition marked with inverted Commas, were inserted by the Author in the first Edition ; those that are not so marked, are principally extracted and altered from a London Edition, printed in the Year 1792.

M'FINGAL.

CANTO FIRST.

THE TOWN MEETING, A. M.

WHEN Yankies* skill'd in martial rule,
First put the British troops to school ;
Instructed them in warlike trade,
And new manœuvres of parade ;
The true war-dance of Yankey-reels,
And *manual exercise* of heels ;
Made them give up, like saints complete,
The arm of flesh, and trust the feet,
And work like Christians undissembling,
Salvation out, by fear and trembling ;
Taught Percy fashionable races,
And modern modes of Chevy-Chases :†

* *Yankies*, a term formerly of derision, but now merely of distinction, given to the people of the four Eastern States.

† Lord Percy commanded the party that was first opposed by the Americans at Lexington. This allusion to the family renown of Chevy-Chace arose from the precipitate manner of his quitting the field of battle, and returning to Boston.

CANTO I.

M'FINGAL.

From Boston, in his best array,
Great 'Squire M'Fingal took his way,
And, grac'd with ensigns of renown,
Steer'd homeward to his native town.
His high descent our heralds trace
To Ossian's* fam'd Fingalian race;
For though their name some part may lack,
Old Fingal spelt it with a Mac;
Which great M'Pherson, with submission,
We hope will add the next edition.
His fathers flourish'd in the Highlands
Of Scotia's fog-benighted islands;
Whence gain'd our 'Squire two gifts by right,
Rebellion and the Second-sight.
Of these the first, in ancient days,
Had gain'd the noblest palms of praise,
'Gainst kings stood forth, and many a crown
With terror of his might confounded;
Till rose a king with potent charm
His foes by goodness to disarm;
Whom ev'ry Scot and Jacobite,
Straight fell in love with—at first sight;

* "See Fingal, an ancient Epic Poem, published the work of Ossian, a Caledonian Bard, of the
tury, by James M'Pherson, a Scottish minister."

Whose gracious speech with aid of pensions,
 Hush'd down all murmurs of dissensions,
 And with the sound of potent metal,
 Brought all their blust'ring swarms to settle ;
 Who rain'd his ministerial mannas,
 Till loud Sedition sung Hosannas ;
 The good Lords-Bishops and the Kirk
 United in the public work ;
 Rebellion from the northern regions,
 With Bute and Mansfield swore allegiance,
 And all combin'd to raze, as nuisance,
 Of church and state, the constitutions ;
 Pull down the empire, on whose ruins
 They meant to edify their new ones ;
 Enslave the Amer'can wildernesses,
 And tear the provinces in pieces.
 For these our 'Squire among the valiant'st,
 Employ'd his time and tools and talents ;
 And in their cause, with manly zeal,
 Us'd his first virtue to rebel ;
 And found this new rebellion pleasing
 As his old king-destroying treason.

Nor less avail'd his optic sleight,
 And Scottish gift of second-sight.
 No ancient sybil, fam'd in rhyme,
 Saw deeper in the womb of time ;

No block in old Dodona's grove,
Could ever more orac'lar prove.
Nor only saw he all that was,
But much that never came to pass ;
Whereby all Prophets far out-went he,
Though former days produc'd a plenty :
For any man with half an eye,
What stands before him may espy ;
But optics sharp it needs, I ween,
To see what is not to be seen.
As in the days of ancient fame
Prophets and poets were the same.
And all the praise that poets gain
Is but for what th' invent and feign :
So gain'd our 'Squire his fame by seeing
Such things as never would have being.
Whence he for oracles was grown
The very tripod* of his town.
Gazettes no sooner rose a lie in,
But straight he fell a prophesying ;
Made dreadful slaughter in his course,
O'erthrew provincials, foot and horse ;
Brought armies o'er by sudden pressings,
Of Hanoverians, Swiss, and Hessians ;

* " The tripod was a sacred three legged stool, f
which the ancient priests uttered their oracles."

Feasted with blood his Scottish clan,
And hang'd all rebels to a man ;
Divided their estates and pelf,
And took a goodly share himself.*
All this, with spirit energetic,
He did by second-sight prophetic.

Thus stor'd with intellectual riches,
Skill'd was our 'Squire in making speeches,
Where strength of brains united centres
With strength of lungs surpassing Stenter's.
But as some muskets so contrive it,
As oft to miss the mark they drive at,
And though well aim'd at duck or plover,
Bear wide, and kick their owners over :
So far'd our 'Squire, whose reas'ning toil
Would often on himself recoil,
And so much injur'd more his side,
The stronger arg'uments he apply'd ;
As old war-elephants, dismay'd,
Trode down the troops they came to aid,

* This prophecy, like some of the prayers of Homer's heroes, was but half accomplished. The *Hanoverians*, &c. indeed, came over, and much were they *feasted with blood* : but the *hanging of all the Rebels*, and the *dividing their estates*, remain unfulfilled. This however, cannot be the fault of our Hero, but rather the British Minister, who left off the war before the work was completed.

And hurt their own side more in battle
Than less and ordinary cattle,
Yet at town meetings ev'ry chief
Pinn'd faith on great M'Fingal's sleeve,
And, as he mentioned all by rote
Rais'd sympathetic hands to vote.

The town, our Hero's scene of action,
Had long been torn by feuds of faction ;
And as each party's strength prevails,
It turn'd up diff'rent heads or tails ;
With constant rattling, in a trice
Show'd various sides, as oft as dice :
As that fam'd weaver,* wife t' Ulysses,
By night each day's-work pick'd in pieces ;
And though she stoutly did bestir her,
Its finishing was ne'er the nearer :
So did this town, with stedfast zeal,
Weave cobwebs for the public weal,
Which when completed, or before,
A second vote in pieces tore.
They met, made speeches full long-winded
Resolv'd, protested, and rescinded ;
Addresses sign'd, then chose Committee
To stop all drinking of Bohea-teas ;†

* Homer's Odyssey.

† One of the subjects of dispute, which be

With winds of doctrine veer'd about,
And turn'd all Whig-Committees out.
Meanwhile our Hero, as their head,
In pomp the tory faction led,
Still following, as the 'Squire should please,
Successive on, like files of geese.

And now the town was summon'd, greeting,
To grand parading of town-meeting ;
A show, that strangers might appal,
As Rome's grave senate did the Gaul
High o'er the rout, on pulpit-stairs,*
Like den of thieves in house of pray'rs,
(That house, which, loth a rule to break,
Serv'd Heav'n but one day in the week,
Open the rest for all supplies
Of news and politics and lies,)
Stood forth the constable and bore
His staff, like Merc'ry's wand of yore,

war was a tax laid upon tea, on its importation into the then Colonies. And, therefore, one of the weapons of opposition, made use of by the people, was a universal agreement, *not to drink any Tea until the tax should be taken off*. The Committees, here referred to, were called *Committees of Safety* ; part of their business was to watch over the execution of the voluntary regulations made by the people in the several towns.

* In country-towns the town-meeting is generally held in the Church.

Wav'd potent round, the peace to keep,
As that laid dead men's souls to sleep.
Above, and near th' Hermetic staff,
The moderator's* upper half
In grandeur o'er the cushion bow'd,
Like Sol half seen behind a cloud.
Beneath stood voters of all colors,
Whigs, tories, orators, and bawlers.
With ev'ry tongue in either faction,
Prepar'd like minute-men,† for action ;
Where truth and falsehood, wrong and ri
Draw all their legions out to fight ;
With equal uproar, scarcely rave
Opposing winds in Æolus' cave ;
Such dialogues, with earnest face,
Held never Balaam with his ass.

With daring zeal and courage blest,
Honorius first the croud address'd ;
When now our 'Squire, returning late,
Arriv'd to aid the grand debate,

* *Moderator* is the name commonly given to the man or speaker of the town-meeting. He is here in the pulpit.

† *Minute-men* were that part of the militia of our country who, being drafted and enrolled by themselves prepared to march at a minute's warning, when public safety required.

M'FINGAL.

to I.

h strange sour faces sat him down,
 ile thus the orator went on :
 —For ages blest, thus Britain rose,
 e terror of encircling foes ;
 er heroes rul'd the bloody plain ;
 er conqu'ring standard aw'd the main ;
 he diff'rent palms her triumphs grace,
 f arms in war, of arts in peace :
 nharrass'd by maternal care,
 Each rising province flourish'd fair ;
 Whose various wealth with lib'ral hand,
 By far o'erpaid the parent land.
 But though so bright her sun must shine,
 'Twas quickly hasting to decline,
 With feeble rays, too weak t'assuage
 The damps, that chill the eve of age.
 “ For states, like men, are doom'd as well
 Th' infirmities of age to feel ;
 And from their different forms of empire,
 Are seiz'd with ev'ry deep distemper.
 Some states high fevers have made head in,
 Which nought could cure but copious bleedin'
 While others have grown dull and dozy,
 Or fix'd in helpless idiocy ;
 Or turn'd demoniacs to belabor
 Each peaceful habitant and neighbor ;

Or, vex'd with hypocondriac fits,
Have broke their strength, and lost their wi

“ Thus now while hoary years prevail,
Good Mother Britain seem'd to fail ;
Her back bent, crippled with the weight
Of age and debts, and cares of state :
For debts she ow'd, and those so large
That twice her wealth could not discharge ;
And now 'twas thought, so high they'd grov
She'd break, and come upon the town ;*
Her arms, of nations once the dread,
She scarce could lift above her head ;
Her deafen'd ears ('twas all their hope) ·
The final trump perhaps might ope,
So long they'd been in stupid mood,
Shut to the hearing of all good ;
Grim Death had put her in his scroll,
Down on the execution roll ;
And Gallic crows, as she grew weaker,
Began to whet their beaks to pick her.
And now, her pow'rs decaying fast,
Her grand climact'ric had she past,
And just like all old women else,

* *To come upon the town*, that is, to become a pu
charge. This remark will serve to explain many o
allusions to town regulations in the course of this

Fell in the vapors much by spells.
Strange whimsies on her fancy struck;
And gave her brain a dismal shock ;
Her mem'ry fails, her judgment ends ;
She quite forgot her nearest friends ;
Lost all her former sense and knowledge,
And fitted fast for Bethle'm college :
Of all the pow'rs she once retain'd,
Conceit and pride alone remain'd.
As Eve, when falling was so modest
To fancy she should grow a goddess ;
As madmen, straw who long have slept on,
Will style them, Jupiter, or Neptune ;
So Britain, 'midst her airs so flighty,
Now took a whim to be almighty ;
Urg'd on to desp'rate heights of frenzy,
Affirm'd her own omnipotency ;*
Would rather ruin all her race,
Than 'bate supremacy an ace ;
Assum'd all rights divine, as grown
The church's head, like good pope Joan ;
Swore all the world should bow and skip
To her almighty Goodyship ;
Anath'matiz'd each unbeliever,

* See the act, declaring that the King and Parliament
had "a right to bind the Colonies in all cases whatsoever?"

And vow'd to live and rule for ever.
Her servants humor'd every whim,
And own'd at once, her power supreme,
Her follies pleas'd in all their stages,
For sake of legacies and wages ;
In *Stephen's Chapel** then in state too
Sat up her golden calf to pray to,
Proclaim'd its pow'r and right divine,
And call'd for worship at its shrine,
And for poor Heretics to burn us
Bade North prepare his fiery furnace ;
Struck bargains with the Romish church
Infallibility to purchase ;
Sat wide for popery the door,
Made friends with Babel's scarlet whore,
Join'd both the matrons firm in clan ;
No sisters made a better span.
No wonder then, ere this was over,
That she should make her children suffer
She first without pretence of reason,
Claim'd right whate'er we had to seize on
And with determin'd resolution
To put her claims in execution,
Sent fire and sword, and call'd it Lenity,
Starv'd us, and christen'd it, Humanity.

"The Parliament-House is called by that n

For she, her case grown desperater,
Mistook the plainest things in nature ;
Had lost all use of eyes or wits ;
Took slav'ry for the Bill of Rights ;
Trembled at whigs and deem'd them foes,
And stopp'd at loyalty her nose ;
Styl'd her own children brats and caitiffs,
And knew not us from th' Indian natives.

“ What though with supplicating prayer
We begg'd our lives and goods she'd spare ;
Not vainer vows, with sillier call,
Elijah's prophets rais'd to Baal ;
A worshipp'd stock, of god or goddess,
Had better heard and understood us.
So once Egyptians at the Nile
Ador'd their guardian Crocodile,
Who heard them first with kindest ear,
And ate them to reward their pray'r ;
And could he talk, as kings can do,
Had made as gracious speeches too.

“ Thus, spite of pray'rs her schemes pursu-
She still went on to work our ruin ; [ing,
Annull'd our charters of releases,
And tore our title-deeds in pieces ;
Then sign'd her warrants of ejection,
And gallows rais'd to stretch our necks on :

And on these errands sent in rage,
Her bailiff, and her hangman Gage,*
And at his heels, like dogs to bait us,
Despatch'd her *Posse Comitatus*.

“ No state e'er chose a fitter person
To carry such a silly farce on.
As heathen gods in ancient days
Receiv'd at second-hand their praise,
Stood imag'd forth in stones and stocks,
And deified in barbers' blocks ;
So Gage was chose to represent
Th' omnipotence of Parli'ment.
And as old heroes gain'd by shifts,
From gods (as poets tell) their gifts ;
Our gen'ral as his actions show,
Gain'd like assistance from below,
By Satan graced with full supplies :
From all his magazine of lies :
Yet could his practice ne'er impart

* General Gage, commander in chief of the troops in North-America, was appointed in 1774 governor and vice-admiral of Massachusetts, in the place of Thomas Hutchinson, who had been the most active agent for the British Minister, in fomenting the disputes which led to the war.

The character and conduct of Gage is described with great justice in the subsequent part of this *satire*.

The wit, to tell a lie with art :
Those lies alone are formidable,
Where artful truth is mix'd with fable ;
But Gage has bungled oft so vilely,
No soul could credit lies so silly ;
Outwent all faith and stretch'd beyond
Credulity's extremest end.
Whence plain it seems, though Satan once
O'erlook'd with scorn each brainless dunce
And, blund'ring brutes in Eden shunning,
Chose out the serpent for his cunning ;
Of late he is not half so nice,
Nor pick'd assistants, 'cause they're wise.
For had he stood upon perfection,
His present friends had lost th' election,
And far'd as hard in the proceeding,
As owls and asses did in Eden.

“ Yet fools are often dang'rous en'mies
As meanest reptiles are most ven'mous :
Nor e'er could Gage, by craft or prowess,
Have done a whit more mischief to us,
Since he began th' unnatural war,
The work his masters sent him for.

“ And are there in this free-born land,
Among ourselves, a venal band,
A dastard race, who long have sold

Their souls and consciences for gold ;
 Who wish to stab their country's vitals,
 If they might heir surviving titles ;
 With joy behold our mischief brewing,
 Insult and triumph in our ruin ?
 Priests, who if Satan should sit down
 To make a Bible of his own,
 Would gladly, for the sake of mitres,
 Turn his inspir'd and sacred writers ;
 Lawyers, who, should he wish to prove
 His title t' his old seat above,
 Would, if his cause he'd give 'em fees in,
 Bring writs of *Entry sur disceisin*,
 Plead for him boldly at the session,
 And hope to put him in possession ;
 Merchants, who for his kindly aid,
 Would take him partner in their trade,
 Hang out their signs with goodly show,
 Inscrib'd with "*Beelzebub and Co.*"
 And judges, who would list his pages,
 For proper liveries and wages ;
 And who as humbly cringe and bow
 To all his mortal servants now ?
 There are ; and shame, with pointing gesture
 Marks out the Addressers and Protesters ;*

* The ADDRESSERS were those who addressed Gen

Whom following down the stream of fate,
Contempts ineffable await,
And public infamy, forlorn,
Dread hate, and everlasting scorn."

As thus he spake, our 'Squire M'Fingal
Gave to his partisans a signal.
Not quicker roll'd the waves to land,
When Moses wav'd his potent wand,
Nor with more uproar, than the Tories
Sat up a gen'ral rout in chorus ; [and jeer'd :
Laugh'd, hiss'd, hemm'd, murmur'd, groan'd,
Honorius now could scarce be heard.
Our Muse amid th' increasing roar,
Could not distinguish one word more :
Though she sat by, in firm record,
To take in short-hand every word :
As ancient Muses wont, to whom
Old bards for depositions come ;
Who must have writ 'em ; for how else
Could they each speech *verbatim* tell us ?
And though some readers of romances

Gage with expressions of gratitude and attachment, on his arrival with a fleet and army to subdue the colonies. The *Protestants* were those who protested against the measures of the first Congress, and the general resolutions of the country.

Are apt to strain their tortur'd fancies,
And doubt when lovers all alone
Their sad soliloquies do groan,
Grieve many a page with no one near 'em,
And nought but rocks and groves to hear 'em,
What sprite infernal could have tattled
And told the authors all they prattled ;
Whence some weak minds have made objection
That what they scribbled must be fiction :
'Tis false, for while the lovers spoke,
The Muse was by with table-book ;
And, lest some blunder might ensue,
Echo stood clerk, and kept the cue.
And though the speech ben't worth a groat,
As usual, 'tish't the author's fault,
But error merely of the prater,
Who should have talk'd to th' purpose bet
Which full excuse, my critic brothers,
May help me out as well as others ;
And 'tis design'd though here it lurk,
To serve as preface to this work.
So let it be—for now our 'Squire
No longer could contain his ire ,
And rising 'midst applauding Tories,
Thus vented wrath upon Honorius.

Quoth he, "'Tis wond'rous what strange stuff
Your Whigs' heads are compounded of;
Which forcè of logic cannot pierce,
Nor syllogistic *carte and tierce*,
Nor weight of scripture or of reason
Suffice to make the least impression.
Not heeding what ye rais'd contest on,
Ye prate, and beg or steal the question ;
And when your boasted arguings fail,
Straight leave all reas'ning off to rail.
Have not our High Church Clergy made it
Appear from scriptures, which ye credit,
That *right divine* from heaven was lent
To kings, that is, the Parliament,
Their subjects to oppress and teaze,
And serve the Devil when they please ?
Did they not write, and pray, and preach,
And torture all the parts of speech ;
About rebellion make a pother,
'rom one end of the land to th' other ?
And yet gain'd fewer pros'lyte Whigs,
Than old St. Anth'ny* 'mongst the pigs ;
And chang'd not half so many vicious

* "The stories of St. Anthony and his pig, and St. Austen's preaching to fishes, are told in the Popish legends."

As Austin, when he preach'd to fishes ;
 Who throng'd to hear, the legend tells,
 Were edifi'd and wagg'd their tails ;
 But scarce you'd prove it, if you tried,
 That e'er one Whig was edified.
 Have ye not heard from Parson Walter*
 Much dire presage of many a halter ?
 What warnings had ye of your duty
 From our old Rev'rend Sam. Auchmuty ?
 From priests of all degrees and metres,
 T' our fag-end man† poor Parson Peters ?
 Have not our Cooper and our Seabury
 Sung hymns, like Barak and old Deborah ;
 Prov'd all intrigues to set you free,
 Rebellion 'gainst *the how'rs that be* ;
 Brought over many a scripture text
 That us'd to wink at rebel sects ;
 Coax'd wayward ones to favor regents,
 Or paraphras'd them to obedience ;

* "High-Church Clergymen, one at Boston and New-York."

† "Peters, a Tory-Clergyman in Connecticut making himself detestable by his inimical absconded from the contempt, rather than the of his country-men, and fled to England, to r plaints against that colony."

'rov'd ev'ry king, ev'n those confest
 lorns of th' Apocalyptic beast,
 and sprouting from its noddles seven,
 ordain'd, as bishops are, by Heaven,
 for reasons sim'lar, we are told,
 hat Tophet was ordain'd of old ;)

y this lay ordination valid
 ecomes all sanctified and hallow'd
 akes patent out when Heav'n has sign'd it,
 nd starts up straight the Lord's anointed ?
 ike extreme unction that can cleanse
 ach penitent from deadly sins,
 lake them run glib, when oil'd by priest,
 he heavenly road, like wheels new greas'd,
 erve them like shoe-ball, for defences
 ainst wear and tear of consciences ;
 o king's anointment cleans betimes,
 ike fuller's earth, all spots of crimes ;
 or future knav'ries gives commissions,
 ike Papists sinning under license,
 or Heaven ordain'd the origin,
 ivines declare, of pain and sin ;
 rove such great good they both have done us,
 ind mercy 'twas they came upon us :
 or without pain and sin and folly,
 lan ne'er were blest, or wise, or holy ;

And we should* thank the Lord 'tis so,
As authors grave wrote long ago.
Now Heav'n its issue never brings
Without its means, and these are kings :
And he who blames when they announce ;
Would counteract eternal councils.
As when the Jews, a murm'ring race,
By constant grumblings fell from grace,
Heav'n taught them first to know their dist
By famine, slav'ry, and Philistines ;
When these could no repentance bring,
In wrath it sent them last a king,
So nineteen, 'tis believ'd in twenty
Of modern kings, for plagues are sent ye ;
Nor can your cavillers pretend,
But that they answer well their end.
'Tis yours to yield to their command,
As rods in Providence's hand ;
And if it means to send you pain,
You turn your noses up in vain :
Your only way's in peace to bear it,
And make necessity a merit.
Hence sure perdition must await
The man who rises 'gainst the state,
Who meets at once the damning sentenc

* "*See the Modern Metaphysical Divinity!*"

Without one loop-hole for repentance ;
E'en though he gain'd the royal see,
And rank among *the pow'rs that be* :
For hell is theirs, the scripture shows,
Whoe'er *the pow'rs that be* oppose,
And all those pow'rs (I am clear that 'tis so)
Are damn'd for ever, *ex officio*.
" Thus far our Clergy ; but 'tis true,
We lack'd not earthly reas'ners too.
Had I the Poet's* brazen lungs,
As sound-board to his hundred tongues,
I could not half the scribblers muster
That swarm'd round Rivington† in cluster ;
Assemblies, councilmen, forsooth ;
Brush, Cooper, Wülkins, Chandler, Booth ;
Yet all their arguments and sap'nce
You did not value at three half-pence.
Did not our Massachusettensis‡
For your conviction strain his senses ?

* " Virgil's *Æneid*, 6th Book, line 625."

† The Editor of the Royal Gazette in New-York ; a paper which answered very well to its title, being filled with those impositions and falsehoods, which are deemed necessary to the support of Royalty, in any country where printing is tolerated.

‡ " See a course of essays, under the signature of *Massachusettensis*."

M'TINGAL.

Every moment he could spare,
 Cards and barbers and the fair;
 Clear as sun in noon-day heavens,
 Did not feel a single grievance;
 Demonstrate all your opposition
 prung from the eggs* of foul sedition;
 wear he had seen the nest she laid in,
 And knew how long she had been sitting;
 Could tell exact what strength of heat is
 Requir'd to hatch her out Committees;
 What shapes they take, and how much longer
 The space before they grow t' a Congress?
 New white-wash'd Hutchinson, and varnish'
 Our Gage, who'd got a little tarnish'd
 Made 'em new masks in time, no doubt,
 For Hutchinson's was quite worn out;
 And while he muddled all his head,
 You did not heed a word he said.
 Did not our grave Judge Sewall† hit
 The summit of newspaper wit?

* "Committees of Correspondence are the
 most venomous serpents that ever issued from
 of sedition," &c.

† "Attorney-General of Massachusetts
 of Admiralty, Gage's chief Advertiser and
 maker, author of a farce called the Amer-
 and of a great variety of essays on the M
 in the Boston newspapers."

Fill'd every leaf of every paper,
Of Mills, and Hicks, and Mother Draper ;
Drew proclamations, works of toil,
In true sublime, of scare-crow style ;
Wrote farces too, 'gainst Sons of Freedom,
All 'for your good, and none would read 'em ;
Denounc'd damnation on their frenzy,
Who died in Whig impenitency ;
Affirm'd that Heav'n would lend us aid,
As all our Tory writers said ;
And calculated so its kindness,
He told the moment when it join'd us."

" 'Twas then belike," Honorius cried,
" When you the public fast defied,
Refus'd to Heav'n to raise a prayer,
Because you'd no connexions there :
And since, with rev'rend hearts and faces,
To Governors you'd made addresses,
In them who made you Tories seeing
You liv'd and mov'd, and had your being,
Your humble vows you would not breathe
To pow'rs you'd no acquaintance with."

" As for your fasts," replied our 'Squire,
" What circumstance could fasts require ?
We kept them not, but 'twas no crime ;
We held them merely loss of time :

For what advantage firm and lasting,
Pray did you ever get by fasting ?
And what the gains that can arise
From vows and off'rings to the skies ?
Will Heav'n reward with posts and fees,
Or send us Tea, as Consignees,*
Give pensions, sal'ries, places, bribes,
Or choose us judges, clerks, or scribes ?
Has it commissions in its gift,
Or cash to serve us at a lift ?
Are acts of Parliament there made,
To carry on the Placeman's trade ?
Or has it pass'd a single bill
To let us plunder whom we will ?
And look our list of Placemen all over ;
Did Heav'n appoint our chief judge Oliver
Fill that high bench with ignoramus ;
Or has its councils by mandamus ?
Who made that wit of water-gruel,†
A Judge of Admiralty, Sewall ?
And were they not mere earthly struggles,
That rais'd up Murray, say, and Ruggles ?

* Alluding to the famous cargo of tea, which was in Boston Harbour, the Consignees of which were tools of General Gage.

† "A proper emblem of his genius."

Did Heav'n send down, our pains to med'cine,
That old simplicity of Edson ;
Or by election pick out from us,
That Marshfield blund'rer, Nat. Ray Thomas ?
Or had it any hand in serving
A Loring, Pepp'rel, Browne, or Erving ?
" Yet we've some saints, the very thing,
We'll put against the best you'll bring :
For, can the strongest fancy paint
Than Hutchinson a greater saint ?
Was there a parson us'd to pray
At times more reg'lar—twice a day—
As folks exact have dinners got,
Whether they've appetites or not ?
Was there a zealot more alarming
'Gainst public vice to hold forth sermon,
Or fix'd at church; whose inward motion
Roll'd up his eyes with more devotion ?
What Puritan could ever pray
In godlier tone than Treas'rer Gray*
Or at town-meetings speechify'ng,
Could utter more melodious whine,
And shut his eyes and vent his moan,
Like owl afflicted in the sun ?

* "Treasurer of Massachusetts Bay, and one of the
Mandamus Council."

Who, once sent home, his canting rival,
Lord Dartmouth's self might out-be-drivel."

"Have you forgot," Honorius cried,
"How your prime saint the truth defied,*
Affirm'd he never wrote a line,
Your charter'd rights to undermine ;
When his own letters then were by,
That prov'd his message all a lie ;
How many promises he seal'd
To get the oppressive acts repeal'd ;
Yet, once arriv'd on England's shore,
Set on the Premier to pass more ?
But these are no defects, we grant,
In a right loyal Tory saint,
Whose godlike virtues must with ease
Atone such venal crimes as these :
Or ye perhaps in Scripture spy
A new Commandment, "Thou shalt lie ;"
And if 't be so, (as who can tell ?)
There's no one, sure, ye keep so well."

Quoth he, "For lies and promise-breaking
Ye need not be in such a taking ;
For lying is, we know and teach,

* The detection of falsehood in Governor Hutchi-
here alluded to, is a curious little history, It is '
large in the Remembrancer, published by Almon,

The highest privilege of speech ;
The universal Magna Charta,
To which all human race is party ;
Whence children first, as David says,
Lay claim to in their earliest days ;
The only stratagem in war
Our Gen'als have occasion for ;
The only freedom of the press
Our politicians need in peace :
And 'tis a shame you wish t'abridge us
Of these our darling privileges.
Thank Heav'n, your shot have miss'd their aim,
For lying is no sin, or shame.

“ As men last wills may change again,
Though drawn in name of God, Amen ;
Besure they must have much the more,
O'er promises as great a pow'r,
Which, made in haste, with small inspection,
So much the more will need correction ;
And when they've careless spoke, or penn'd 'em,
Have right to look 'em o'er and mend 'em ;
Revise their vows, or change the text,
By way of codicil annex'd,
Turn out a promise that was base,
And put a better in its place.
So Gage of late agreed, you know,

To let the Boston people go ;
Yet when he saw, 'gainst troops that brav'
They were the only guards that sav'd him
Kept off that satan of a Putnam,*
From breaking in to maul and mutt'n him
He'd too much wit such leagues t' obser
And shut them in again to starve;

“ So Moses writes, when female Jews
Made oaths and vows unfit for use,
Their parents then might set them free
From that consc'entious tyranny :
And shall men feel their spir'tual bondag'
For ever, when they grow beyond age ;
Nor have pow'r their own oaths to chang'
I think the tale were very strange.
Shall vows but bind the stout and strong,
And let go women weak and young,
As nets inclose the largest crew,
And let the smaller fry creep through ?
Besides the Whigs have all been set on,
The Tories to affright and threaten,

* General Putnam of Connecticut, who has
great reputation, as a Partisan officer, in the w.
last, came forward with activity in the beginni
war of independence ; but his age and infirmities
him soon to quit the field.

hiz Till Gage, amidst his trembling fits,
Has hardly kept him in his wits ;
And though he speak with art and finesse,
'Tis said beneath *duress per minas*.
For we're in peril of our souls
From feathers, tar, and lib'rtty-poles :
And vows extorted are not binding
In law, and so not worth the minding.
For we have in this hurly-burly
Sent off our conscience on furlough ;
Thrown our religion o'er in form,
Our ship to lighten in the storm:
Nor need we blush your Whigs before,
If we've no virtue, you've no more.

“ Yet, black with sins, would stain a mitre,
Rail ye at crimes by ten tints whiter ?
And, stuff'd with choler atrabilious,
Insult us here for peccadilloes !
While all your vices run so high
That mercy scarce could find supply :
While, should you offer to repent,
You'd need more fasting days than Lent,
More groans than haunted church-yard valleys,
And more confessions than broad-alleys.*

* Alluding to church discipline, where a person is

I'll show you all at fitter time,
Th' extent and greatness of your crime,
And here demonstrate to your face,
Your want of virtue, as of grace,
Evinc'd from topics old and recent :
But thus much must suffice at present.
To th' after portion of the day,
I leave what more remains to say ;
When I've good hope you'll all appear,
More fitted and prepar'd to hear,
And griev'd for all your vile demeanor :
But now 'tis time t' adjourn for dinner."

obliged to stand in the aisle of the church, called the
alley, name the offence of which he has been guilty
ask pardon of his brethren.

END OF THE FIRST CANTO.

M'FINGAL.

CANTO SECOND.

THE TOWN-MEETING, P. M.

THE Sun, who never stops to dine,
Two hours had pass'd the mid-way line ;
And, driving at his usual rate,
Lash'd on his downward car of state ;
And now expir'd the short vacation,
And dinner done in epic fashion ;
While all the crew beneath the trees,
Eat pocket-pies or bread and cheese ;
Nor shall we, like old Homer, care
To versify the bill of fare.
For now each party, feasted well ;
Throng'd in, like sheep, at sound of bell,
With equal spirit took their places ;
And meeting op'd with three O yesses :
When first the daring Whigs t' oppose,
Again the great M'Fingal rose,
Stretch'd magisterial arm amain,
And thus assum'd th' accusing strain.
"Ye Whigs, attend, and hear affrighted,
The crimes whereof ye stand indicted ;

The sins and follies past all compass,
 That prove you guilty, or *non compos*.
 I leave the verdict to your senses,
 And jury of your consciences ;
 Which, though they're neither good nor
 Must yet convict you and your crew.
 Ungrateful sons ! a factious band,
 That rise against your parent land !
 Ye viper race, that burst in strife,
 The welcome womb that gave you life,
 Tear with sharp fangs, and forked tongue
 Th' indulgent bowels, whence you sprung
 And scorn the debt of obligation,
 You justly owe the British nation,
 Which since you cannot pay, your crew
 Affect to swear 'twas never due.

" Did not the deeds of England's Prime
 First drive your fathers to this climate,
 Whom jails, and fines, and ev'ry ill
 Forc'd to their good against their will ?
 Ye owe to their obliging temper
 The peopling your new-fangled empire,
 While ev'ry British act and canon
 Stood forth, your *causa sine qua non*.

* The persecutions of the English Church under
 bishop Laud, are well known to have been the
causa sine qua non of New-England.

Did they not send you charters o'ery
And give you lands you own'd before,
Permit you all to spill your blood,
And drive out heathen where you could ;
On these mild-terms, that, conquest won,
The realm you gain'd should be their own ?
Or when of late, attack'd by those,
Whom her connexion made your foes,*
Did they not then, distrest in war,
Send gen'rais to your help from far,
Whose aid you own'd in terms less haughty,
And thankfully o'erpaid your quota ?
Say, at what period did they grudge
To send you Governor or Judge,
With all their missionary crew,†
To teach you law and gospel too ?
Brought o'er all felons in the nation,
To help you on in population,

* The war of 1755, between the English and the French, was doubtless excited by circumstances foreign to the interests of the colonies which now form the United States. The colonies, however, paid more than their proportion of the expense, and the balance was repaid by the British government after the war.

† The Missionaries were clergymen, ordained by the Bishop of London, and settled in America. Those in the *Northern Colonies* were generally attached to the Royal cause.

M'FINGAL.

CANTO II.

pos'd their Bishops to surrender,
and made their priests a legal tender,
Who only ask'd in surplice clad,
The simple tythe of all you had :
And now to keep all knaves in awe,
Have sent their troops t' establish law,
And with gunpowder, fire, and ball,
Reform your people one and all.
Yet, when their insolence and pride
Have anger'd all the world beside,
When fear and want at once invade,
Can you refuse to lend them aid ;
And rather risque your heads in fight,
Than gratefully throw in your mite ?
Can they for debts make satisfaction,
Should they dispose their realm by aucti
And sell off Britain's goods and land all
To France and Spain by inch of candle
Shall good king George, with want op
Insert his name in bankrupt list,
And shut up shop, like failing merch
That fears the bailiffs should make s
With poverty shall princes strive,
And nobles lack whereon to live ?
Have they not rack'd their whol- :
To feed their brats on posts and
Made e'en Scotch friends with

And pick'd poor Ireland to the bone ;
Yet have on hand, as well deserving,
Ten thousand bastards left for starving ?
And can you now with conscience clear,
Refuse them an asylum here ?
Or not maintain, in manner fitting,
These genuine sons of Mother Britain ?
T' evade these crimes of blackest grain,
You prate of liberty in vain,
And strive to hide your vile designs,
With terms abstruse, like school divines :

“ Your boasted patriotism is scarce,
Your country's love is but a farce ;
And after all the proofs you bring,
We Tories know there's no such thing ;
Our English writers of great fame
Prove public virtue but a name.
Hath not Dalrymple* show'd in print,
And Johnson* too, there's nothing in't ?
Produc'd you demonstration ample,
From others and their own example,
That self is still, in either faction,
The only principle of action ;
The loadstone, whose attracting tether
Keeps the politic world together :

* “ Ministerial Pensioners.”

And spite of all your double-dealing,
We Tories know 'tis so by feeling.

"Who heeds your babbling of transmitting
Freedom to brats of your begetting,
Or will proceed as though there were a tie,
Of obligation to posterity?

We get 'em, bear 'em, breed and nurse;
What has post'rity done for us,
That we, lest they their rights should lose,
Should trust our necks to gripe of noose?

"And who believes you will not run?
You're cowards, every mother's son;

And should you offer to deny,
We've witnesses to prove it by-

Attend the opinion first, as referee,
Of your old Gen'ral, stout Sir Jeffery,
Who swore that with five thousand foot
He'd rout you all, and in pursuit,

Run through the land as easily,
As camel through a needle's eye.

Did not the valiant Colonel Grant
Against your courage make his slant
Affirm your universal failure

In ev'ry principle of valor,
And swear no scamp'ers e'er could
So swift, a bullet scarce could ca-

— confess in this,

A judge most competent he is,
Well skill'd on runnings to decide,
As what himself has often tried ?
Twould not methinks, be labor lost,
If you'd sit down and count the cost ;
And ere you call your Yankies out,
First think what work you've set about.
Have ye not rous'd his force to try on,
That grim old beast, the British Lion ?
And know you not that at a sup
He's large enough to eat you up ?
Have you survey'd his jaws beneath,
Drawn inventories of his teeth,
Or have you weigh'd in even balance
His strength and magnitude of talons ?
His roar would turn your boasts to fear,
As easily as sour small-beer,
And make your feet from dreadful fray,
By native instinct, run away.
Britain, depend on't, will take on her
T' assert her dignity and honor,
And ere she'd lose your share of pelf,
Destroy your country, and herself.
For has not North declar'd they fight
To gain substantial rev'nue by 't,
Deny'd he'd ever deign to treat,
Till on your knees, and at his feet }

And feel you not a trifling ague,
 From Van's *Delenda est Carthago!**
 For this, now Britain has come to't,
 Think you she has not means to do't?
 Has she not set to work all engines
 To spirit up the native Indians,
 Send on your backs a savage band;
 With each a hatchet in his hand;
 T' amuse themselves with scalping knives,
 And butcher children and your wives;
 That she may boast again with vanity,
 Her English national humanity?
 (For now, in its primeval sense,
 This term, *humanity*, comprehends
 All things of which, on this side hell,
 The *human mind* is capable;
 And thus 'tis well, by writers sage,
 Applied to Britain and to Gage.)
 And on this work to raise allies
 She sent her duplicate of Guys,
 To drive at diff'rent parts at once on,
 Her stout Guy Carleton and Guy Johnso
 To each of whom, to send again ye,
 Old Guy of Warwick were a ninny;
 * Alluding, as is supposed, to a speech in
 Parliament, in which "*Delenda est Carthago*"
 to America.

gh the dun cow he fel'd in war,
 kill-cows are his betters far.
 nd has she not assay'd her notes,
 ise your slaves to cut your throats,
 'er ambassadors with guineas,
 be your blacks in Carolinas?
 as not Gage, her missaionary,
 l many an Afric slave t' a Tory,
 ade th' Amer'can Bishop's see grow,
 ny a new-converted Negro?
 nds to government did not he
 slaves at Boston late set free?
 them all in black parade,
 'with regimental red?
 ere they not accounted then
 g his very bravest men?
 hen such means she stoops to take,
 you she is not wide awake?
 phaz, good man in Job,
 num'rous allies through the globe;
 ough the stones* along the street
 ify a cov'nant meet,
 'ry beast, from lice to lions,
 stones and all the elements with thee
 ify a strict confed'racy;
 ats their savage temper shall forget,
 firm alliance with thee treat.

BLACKMORE'S PARAPHRASE OF JOB.

To join in league of strict alliance :
Has she not cring'd, in spite of pride,
For like assistance, far and wide ?
Was there a creature so despis'd,
Its aid she has not sought and priz'd ?
Till all this formidable league rose
Of Indians, British troops, and Negroes :
And can you break these triple bands,
By all your workmanship of hands ?”

“ Sir,” quoth Honorius, “ we presume,
You guess from past feats, what’s to come
And from the mighty deeds of Gage,
Foretel how fierce the war he’ll wage.
You, doubtless, recollected here
The annals of his first great year ;
While, wearying out the Tories’ patience,
He spent his breath in proclamations ;
While all his mighty noise and vapor
Was us’d in wrangling upon paper ;
And boasted military fits
Clos’d in the straining of his wits ;
While troops in Boston commons plac’d
Laid nought but quires of paper waste ;
While strokes alternate stunn’d the nation
Protest, address, and proclamation ;
And speech met speech, fib clash’d
And Gage still answer’d, squib for

" Though this not all his time was lost on ;
He fortify'd the town of Boston ;
Built breast-works that might lend assistance
To keep the patriots at a distance ;
For howsoe'er the rogues might scoff,
(e lik'd them best, the farthest off ;)
'f mighty use and help to aid
Is courage when he felt afraid ;
And whence right off in manful station,
He'd boldly pop his proclamation.
Our hearts must in our bosoms freeze
At such heroic deeds as these."

" Vain," quoth our 'Squire, " you'll find to
It Gage's first triumphant year ; [sincer
Or Providence dispos'd to tease us,
Can use what instruments it pleases.
To pay a tax, at Peter's wish,
His chief cashier was once a Fish ;
His ass in Balaam's sad disaster,
Turn'd orator, and sav'd his master ;
A goose, plac'd sentry on his station,
Reserv'd old Rome from desolation ;
An English bishop's cur* of late
Disclos'd rebellion 'gainst the state ;
The frogs croak'd Pharaoh to repentance,
And lice revers'd the threat'ning sentence :

" See Bishop Atterbury's trial."

M'FINGAL.

CANTO —

And Heav'n can ruin you at pleasure,
 By our scorn'd Gage, as well as Cæsar.
 Yet did our hero in these days
 Pick up some laurel wreaths of praise.
 And as the statuary of Seville
 Made his crack'd saint an exc'llent devil;
 So though our war few triumphs brings,
 We gain'd great fame in other things
 Did not our troops show much discerning,
 And skill, your various arts in learning?
 Outwent they not each native noodle
 By far, in playing Yankey-Doodle? *
 Which, as 'twas your New-England tune,
 'Twas marvellous they took so soon :
 And ere the year was fully through,
 Did not they learn to foot it too—
 And such a dance as ne'er was known,
 For twenty miles on end led down? †

* YANKEY-DOODLE, as M'Fingal here relates, was
 the favorite Air of New-England, and was often played in
 by the British troops, particularly on their march
 into Burgin. Afterwards the captive army of Burge
 obliged to march to this tune in the ceremony of pi
 arms, at Saratoga. In the course of the war, it
 favorite air of Liberty, like the present CA IRA
 It is remarkable, that after the taking of the
 before the introduction of CA IRA, the Paris
 ed YANKEY-DOODLE.

† This is Lord Percy's modern Chevy-chase
 his lordship and his army were chased; first

Was there a Yankey trick you knew,
 They did not play as well as you?
 Did they not lay their heads together,
 And gain your art to tar and feather,
 When Col'nel Nesbitt through the town
 In triumph bore the country-clown?
 Oh, what a glorious work to sing
 The vet'ran troops of Britain's king.
 Advent'ring for th' heroic laurel,
 With bag of feathers and tar-barrel!
 To paint the cart where culprits ride,
 And Nesbitt marching at its side,†

* In the winter of 1774 and 1775, the British army had been stimulated by their officers and the Tories, to an ardent desire to see hostilities commence. But the instigators, wishing the Americans to be the aggressors, used the following stratagem to complete their purpose.

On the first of May, 1775, the King's standard was to be erected at Worcester, fifty miles from Boston, when Lieutenant-Colonel Nesbitt immortalized himself by executing this plan to promote the quarrel, and give the army an opportunity of their desired revenge.

A soldier, according to his directions, sold an old rusty musket to a countryman for three dollars, who brought vegetables to market. This could be no crime in the market-man, who had an undoubted right to purchase, and bear arms. He was notwithstanding, immediately seized by Nesbitt, and conveyed to the guard-house, where he was confined all night. Early the next morning they stripped him naked, covered him with warm tar, and then with feathers, and conducted him to the north end of the town,

Great executioner and proud,
 Like hangn an high on Holborn road ;
 And o'er the bright triumphal car
 The waving ensigns of the war !
 As when a triumph Rome decreed,
 For great Calig'la's valiant deed,
 Who had subdu'd the British seas,
 By gath'ring cockles from their base ;
 In pompous car the conqu'ror bore
 His captiv'd scallops from the shore,
 Ovations gain'd his crabs for fetching,
 And mighty feats of oyster-catching :
 O'er Yankies thus the war begun,
 They tarr'd and triumph'd over one ;
 And tought and boasted through the seas
 With might as great, and equal reason,
 " Yet thus though skill'd in vict'ry toil

then to the south end, and as far as Liberty-Tree
 they dismissed the man, through fear of the people
 by this time had collected in large numbers,) and
 retreat to their barracks.

The party consisted of about thirty grenadiers
 47th regiment with fixed bayonets, 30 drums ac-
 playing the rogue's march, headed by Neabitt, with a
 sword.

The magistrates of the town waited on Gener-
 with a complaint of this outrage ; he pretended a
 bation ; but took no steps to censure the conduct
 bitt, or to do justice to the man who had suffered
lence.

They boast, not unexpert in wiles.
For gain'd they not an equal fame in
The art of secrecy and scheming ;
In stratagems show'd mighty force,
And moderniz'd the Trojan horse ;
Play'd o'er again those tricks Ulyssean
In their fam'd Salem expedition ?
For as that horse, the poets tell ye,
Bore Grecian armies in his belly ;
Till, their full reck'ning run, with joy
Their Sinon midwif'd them in Troy ;
So in one ship was Leslie bold
Cramm'd with three hundred men in hold,
Equipp'd for enterprise and sail,
Like Jonas stow'd in womb of whale.
To Marblehead, in depth of night,
The cautious vessel wing'd her flight.
And now the sabbath's silent day
Call'd all your Yankies off to pray ;
Remov'd each prying jealous neighbor,
The scheme and vessel fell in labor ;
Forth from its hollow womb pour'd hast'ly
The Myrmidons of Col'ncl Leslie :
Not thicker o'er the blacken'd strand
The Frogs'* detachment rush'd to land,

* "See Homer's Battle of the Frogs and Mice."

Equipp'd by onset or surprise
To storm the entrenchment of the Mice.
Through Salem straight without delay,
The bold battalion took its way,
March'd o'er a bridge in open sight
Of sev'ral Yankies arm'd for fight,
Then without loss of time, or men,
Veer'd round for Boston back again ;
And found so well their project thrive,
That ev'ry soul got home alive.

“ Thus Gage's arms did fortune bless
With triumph, safety, and success :
But mercy is, without dispute,
His first and darling attribute :
So great, it far outwent and conquer'd
His military skill at Concord.
There, when the war he chose to wage,
Shone the benevolence of Gage :
Sent troops to that ill-omen'd place
On errands mere of special grace,
And all the work he chose them for
Was to prevent* a civil war :
And for that purpose he projected
The only certain way t' effect it,
To take your powder, stores, and arms,
And all your means of doing harms :

* See Gage's answer to Governor Trumbull.

As prudent folks take knives away,
Lest children cut themselves at play.
And yet, though this was all his scheme,
This war you still will charge on him ;
And though he oft has swore, and said it,
Stick close to facts, and give no credit.
Think you, he wish'd you'd brave and beard him ?
Why, 'twas the very thing that scar'd him.
He'd rather you should all have run,
Than staid to fire a single gun.
And for the civil war you lament,
Faith, you yourselves must take the blame in't,
For had you then, as he intended,
Giv'n up your arms, it must have ended.
Since that's no war, each mortal knows,
Where one side only gives the blows,
And th' other bears 'em ; on reflection,
The most you'll call it is correction.
Nor could the contest have gone higher,
If you had ne'er return'd the fire ;
But when you shot, and not before,
It then commenc'd a civil war.
Else Gage, to end this controversy,
Had but corrected you in mercy ;
Whom mother Britain, old and wise,
Sent o'er the col'nies to chastise ;
Command obedience on their peril

Of Ministerial whip and ferule ;
And since they ne'er could come of age,
Govern'd and tutor'd them by Gage.
Still more, that this was all their errand,
The army's conduct makes apparent.
What though at Lexington you can say
They kill'd a few they did not fancy,
At Concord then, with manful popping,
Discharg'd a round, the ball to open ;
Yet when they saw, your rebel-rout
Determin'd still to hold it out,
Did they not show their love to peace,
And wish, that discord straight might cease—
Demonstrate, and by proofs uncommon,
Their orders were, to injure no man ?
For did not ev'ry Reg'lar run,*
As soon as e'er you fir'd a gun ?
Take the first shot you sent them greeting,
As meant their signal for retreating—
And fearful if they staid to sport,
You might by accident be hurt,
Convey themselves with speed away
Full twenty miles in half a day—

* In the ancient wars in America, the term **REGULAR** was applied to the British troops, to distinguish them from the Provincials, or new levies of the country. At the commencement of the late war, the same terms of distinction were used.

lace till their legs were grown so weary,
 They'd scarce suffice their weight to carry ?
 Whence Gage extols, from gen'ral hearsay,
 The* great activ'ity of Lord Percy,
 Whose brave example led them on,
 And spirited the troops to run ;
 And now may boast, at royal levees,
 A Yankey chace worth forty Chevys:
 Yet you, as vile as they were kind,
 Pursued, like tigers, still behind ;
 Fir'd on them at your will and shut
 The town, as though you'd starve them out :
 And with parade prepost'roust† hog'd
 Affect to hold them there besieg'd ;
 Though Gage, whom proclamations call
 Your Gov'rnor and Vice-Admiral,
 Whose pow'r gubernatorial still
 Extends as far as Bunker's Hill—
 Whose admiralty reaches clever,
 Near half a mile up Mystic river,
 Whose naval force commands the seas,
 Can run away whene'er he please)

* " Too much praise cannot be given to Lord Percy,
 for his remarkable activity through the whole day."

Gage's Account of Lexington Battle.

† " And with a preposterous parade or military arrange-
 ment, they affect to hold the army besieged."

Gage's last grand Proclamation.

Scar'd troops of tories into town,
And burnt their hay and houses down,
And menac'd Gage, unless he'd flee,
To drive him headlong to the sea ;
As once to faithless Jews a sign,
The de'il turn'd hog-reeve, did the swine.

“ But now your triumphs all are o'er,
For see, from Britain's angry shore,
With mighty hosts of valor, join
Her Howe, her Clinton, and Burgoyne,
As comets through th' affrighted skies
Pour baleful ruin, as they rise ;
As *Ætna*, with infernal roar,
In conflagration sweeps the shore ;
Or as Abijah White,* when sent
Our Marshfield friends to represent,
Himself while dread array involves,
Commissions, pistols, swords, resolves,
In awful pomp descending down,
Bore terror on the factious town :
Not with less glory and affright,
Parade these Gen'als forth to fight.

* “ He was a representative of Marshfield, and em-
ed to carry their famous town-resolves to Boston.
armed himself in a ridiculous military array, as an
Hudibras, pretending he was afraid he should be robb
them.”

To more each Reg'lar Col'nelt runs
 From whizzing beedles, as air-guns,
 Thinks horn-bugs bullets—or, through fears,
 Husketoos takes for musqueteers ;
 For 'scapes, as though you'd gain'd allies
 From Beelzebub's whole host of flies.
 To bug their warlike hearts appalls,
 They better know the sound of balls.
 Hear the din of battle bray,
 The trump of horror marks its way.
 See afar the sack of cities,
 The gallows strung with Whig-Committees ;
 Our Moderators tric'd like vermin,
 And gate-posts grac'd with heads of Chairmen ;
 Our Gen'ral for wave-off'rings hanging,
 And ladders throng'd with Priests haranguing.
 What pill'ries glad the Tories' eyes
 With Patriot-ears for sacrifice !
 What whipping-posts your chosen race
 Admit successive in embrace,
 While each bears off his crimes, alack !

* “ This was a fact. Some British officers, soon after
 age's arrival at Boston, walking on Beacon-Hill after sun-
 set, were affrighted by noises in the air (supposed to be the
 wing of bugs and beetles) which they took to be the sound
 of bullets, and left the hill with great precipitation. Con-
 cerning which they wrote terrible accounts to England of
air being shot at with air guns ; as appears by one or two
 letters, extracts from which were published in the English
 press.

Like Bunyan's pilgrim, on his back ;
Where then, when Tories scarce get clear,
Shall Whigs and Congresses appear ?
What rocks and mountains shall you call
To wrap you over with their fall,
And save your heads, in these sad weathers,
From fire and sword, and tar and feathers !
For lo, with British troops, tar-bright,
Again our Nesbitt heaves in sight !
He comes, he comes, your lines to storm,
And rig your troops in uniform !
To meet such heroes, will ye brag,
With fury arm'd and feather-bag ?
Who wield their missile pitch and tar,
With engines new in British war ?
 " Lo, where our mighty navy brings
Destruction on her canvas wings ;
While through the deeps her potent thunder
Shall sound th' alarm to rob and plunder !
As Phœbus first, (so Homer speaks,)
When he march'd out t' attack the Greeks,
'Gainst mules sent forth his arrow fatal,
And slew th' auxiliaries, their cattle ;
So where our ships shall stretch the keel,
What conquer'd oxen shall they steal !
What heroes, rising from the deep,
Invade your marshall'd hosts of sheep ?

Disperse whole troops of horse, and, pressing,
 Make cows surrender at discretion ;
 Attack your hens, like Alexanders,
 And reg'ments rott of geese and ganders ;
 Or, where united arms combine,
 Lead captive many a herd of swine !
 Then rush in dreadful fury down
 To fire on ev'ry sea-port town ;
 Display their glory and their wits,
 Fright unarm'd children into fits,
 And stoutly from th' unequal fray
 Make many a woman run away !
 And can ye doubt, whene'er we please,
 Our chiefs, shall boast such deeds as these ?
 Have we not chiefs, transcending far
 The old fam'd *thunderbolts of war* ;
 Beyond the brave romantic fighters,
 Styl'd *swords of death* by novel-writers ?
 Nor in romancing ages e'er arose
 So terrible a tier of heroes.
 From Gage, what flashes fright the waves !
 How loud a blunderbuss is Graves !*
 How Newport dreads the blust'ring sallies,
 That thunder from our pop-gun, Wallace !*

* Admiral Graves and Captain Wallace lay before the
 town of Newport a long time, and by their "deeds above

While noise, in formidable strains,
 Spouts from his thimble-full of brains !
 I see you sink with aw'd surprise !
 I see our Tory-brethren rise !
 And as the sect'ries Sandemanian,†
 Our friends, describe their wish'd Millenni
 Tell how the world, in ev'ry region
 At once, shall own their true religion ;
 For Heav'n, with plagues of awful dread,
 Shall knock all heretics o'er the head ;
 And then their church, the meek in spirit,
 The earth, as promis'd, shall inherit,
 From the dead wicked, as heirs-male,
 And next remainder-men in tail :
 Such ruin shall the Whigs oppress !
 Such spoils our Tory friends shall bless !
 While confiscation at command
 Shall stalk in horror through the land,
 Shall give your Whig estates away,
 And call our brethren in to play.

" And can ye doubt or scruple more,
 These things are near you at the door ?
 Behold ! for though to reas'ning blind,
 heroic," merited all the praises that the discerning M'F
 gal has here bestowed upon them.

† The religious sect of Sandemanians have singular ideas
 of the Millennium. Their political religion during
 Revolution was Toryism.

Signs of the times ye sure might mind,
And view impending fate as plain
As ye'd foretel a show'r of rain.

“Hath not Heav'n warn'd you what must en-
And Providence declar'd against you ; [sue,
Hung forth its dire portents of war,
By signs* and beacons in the air ;
Alarm'd old women, all around,
By fearful noises under ground ;
While earth, for many dozen leagues,
Groan'd with her dismal load of Whigs ?
Was there a meteor far and wide
But muster'd on the Tory-side ?
A star malign, that has not bent
Its aspect for the Parliament,
Foreboding your defeat and misery ;
As once they rought against old Sisera ?
Was there a cloud that spreads the skies,
But bore our armies of allies ?
While dreadful hosts of fire stood forth
Mid baleful glimm'rings from the North ;†

* “Such stories of prodigies were at that time industriously propagated among the Tory party in various parts of New-England, to terrify and intimidate the superstitious.”

† It is said to be a fact, that in America about the commencement of the war, the *aurora borealis* appeared more frequently than usual, and assumed more singular appearances.

Which plainly shews which part they join'd,
For North's the minister ye mind ;
Whence oft your quibblers in gazettes
On *Northern blasts* have strain'd their wits ;
And think ye not the clouds know how
To make the pun as well as you ?
Did there arise an apparition,
But grinn'd forth ruin to sedition ?
A death watch, but has join'd our leagues,
And click'd destruction to the Whigs ?
Heard ye not, when the wind was fair,
At night, our or'lers in the air,
That, loud as admiralty-libel,
Read awful chapters from the bible,
And death and deviltry denounc'd,
And told you, how you'd soon be trounc'd ?
I see to join our conqu'ring side,
Heav'n, earth, and hell, at once ally'd !
See from your overthrow, and end,
The Tories' paradise ascend ;
Like that new world that claims its station
Beyond the final conflagration !
I see the day that lots your share
In utter darkness and despair ;
The day of joy when North, our Lord,
His faithful servants shall reward !
No Tory then shall set before him

Small wish of 'Squire, or Justice Quorum ;
But, 'fore his unmiſtaken eyes
See Lordſhips, poſts and penſions riſe.
Awake to gladneſs, then, ye Tories,
Th' unbounded proſpect lies before us :
The pow'r diſplay'd in Gage's banners,
Shall cut Amer'can lands to manors,
And o'er our happy, conquer'd ground
Diſpenſe eſtates and titles round.
Behold the world will ſtare at new ſets
Of home-made earls,* in Maſſachuſetts ;
Admire, array'd in ducal taſſels,
Your Ol'vers, Hutchinsons and Vaſſals ;
See, join'd in miniſterial work,
His grace of Albany and York !
What Lordſhips from each carv'd eſtate,
On our New-York aſſembly wait !
What titled Jauncys, Gales and Billops ;†
Lord Bruſh, Lord Wilkins, and Lord Phillips
In wide-sleev'd pomp of godly guiſe,
What ſolemn rows of Biſhops riſe !
Aloft a Card'nal's hat is ſpread
O'er punſter Cooper's‡ rev'rend head !

* See Hutchinson's and Oliver's letters.

† Members of the miniſterial majority in the New-York aſſembly ; Wilkins, a noted writer.

‡ Preſident Cooper, a notorious punſter ; Vardell author

In Vardell, that poetic zealot,
 I view a lawn-bedizen'd prelate !
 While mitres fall, as 'tis their duty,
 On heads of Chandler and Auchmuty !
 Knights, viscounts, barons, shall ye meet,
 As thick as pavements in the street !
 Ev'n I, perhaps, Heav'n speed my claim,
 Shall fix a *Sir* before my name.
 For titles all our foreheads ache ;
 For what blest changes can they make ?
 Place rev'rence, grace, and excellence
 Where neither claim'd the least pretence :
 Transform by patent's magic words,
 Men, likest devils, into Lords ;
 Whence commoners, to peers translated,
 Are justly said to be *created* !
 Now where commissioners ye saw,
 Shall boards of nobles deal you law !
 Long rob'd comptrollers judge your rights
 And tide-waiters start up in knights !
 While Whigs, subdu'd in slavish awe,
 Our wood shall hew, our water draw,
 And bless that mildness, when past hope
 Which sav'd their necks from noose of
 For as to gain assistance, we
 of some poetical satires on the sons of liberty in
 and royal professor in King's college ; Chandl
 muty, High-church and Tory-writers of the

Design their negroes to set free ;
For Whigs, when we enough shall bang 'em,
Perhaps 'tis better not to hang 'em
Except their chiefs ; the vulgar knaves
Will do more good preserv'd for slaves."

" 'Tis well," Honorius cried, " your scheme
Has painted out a pretty dream.
We can't confute your second sight ;
We shall be slaves and you a knight ;
These things must come : but I divine
They'll come not in your day, or mine.
But O ! my friends, my brethren, hear,
And turn for once th' attentive ear.
Ye see how prompt to aid our woes,
The tender mercies of our foes ;
Ye see with what unvaried rancor
Still for our blood their minions hanker,
Nor aught can sate their mad ambition,
From us, but death, or worse, submission.
Shall these then riot in our spoil,
Reap the glad harvest of our toil,
Rise from their country's ruin proud,
And roll their chariot-wheels in blood ?
And can ye sleep while high outspread
Hangs desolation o'er your head ?
See Gage with inauspicious star,
Has op'd the gates of civil war ,

When streams of gore from freemen slain,
En crimson'd Concord's fatal plain ;
Whose warning voice, with awful sound,
Still cries like Abel's from the ground,
And Heav'n attentive to its call,
Shall doom the proud oppressor's fall.

“ Rise then, ere ruin swift surprise,
To victory, to vengeance rise !
Hark ! how the distant din alarms !
The echoing trumpet breathes, To arms !
From provinces, remote afar,
The sons of glory rouse to war ;
'Tis Freedom calls ; th' enraptur'd sound
The Apalachian hills rebound ;
The Georgian shores her voice shall hear,
And start from lethargies of fear.
From the parch'd zone with glowing ray,
Where pours the sun intenser day,
To shores where icy waters roll,
And tremble to the dusky pole,
Inspir'd by Freedom's heav'nly charms,
United nations wake to arms.
The star of conquest lights their way,
And guides their vengeance on their prey,—
Yes, though tyrannic force oppose,
Still shall they triumph o'er their foes,

leav'n the happy land shall bless,
safety, liberty, and peace.
And ye whose souls of dastard mould,
at the bravery of the bold ;
see your country who pretend
want all spirit to defend ;
feel your fancies so prolific,
d'ring vision'd whims terrific,
run with horrors of coercion,
blood, and thunder in reversion,
standards, pill'ries, confiscations,
age's scare-crow proclamations,
all the trumpery of fear ;
bullets whizzing in your rear ;
carce could rouse, if caught in fray,
ce of mind to run away ;
ought but halters rise to view
your dreams (and dreams are true ;)
hile these phantoms haunt your brains,
own the willing neck to chains.
Is are ye sons of sires so great,
rtal in the fields of fate,
rav'd all deaths by land or sea,
led, who conquer'd, to be free !
! coward souls, the worst disgrace
forefathers' valiant race ;
meward from the glorious field ;

There turn the wheel, the distaff wield ;
Act what ye are, nor dare to stain
The warrior's arms with touch profane ;
There beg your more heroic wives
To guard your children and your lives ;
Beneath their aprons find a screen,
Nor dare to mingle more with men."
As thus he said, the Tories' anger
Could now restrain itself no longer,
Who tried before by many a freak, or
Insulting noise, to stop the speaker ;
Swung th' unoil'd hinge of each pew-door ;
Their feet kept shuffling on the floor :
Made their disapprobation known
By many a murmur, hum, and groan,
That to his speech supplied the place
Of counterpart in thorough-bass :
As bag-pipes, while the tune they breathe,
Still drone and grumble underneath ;
Or as the fam'd Demosthenes
Harangu'd the rumbling of the seas,
Held forth, with eloquence full grave,
To audience loud of wind and wave ?
And had a stiller congregation
Than Tories are, to hear th' oration.
But now the storm grew high and louder,

As nearer thund'rings of a cloud are,
 And ev'ry soul, with heart and voice,
 Supplied his quota of the noise ;
 Each list'ning ear was set on torture,
 Each Tory bell'wing out, To order :
 And some, with tongue not low or weak,
 Were clamm'ring fast, for leave to speak ;
 The moderator with great vi'lence,
 The cushion thump'd, with " Silence ! silence !" *'*
 The constable to ev'ry prater
 Bawl'd out, " Pray hear the moderator ;"
 Some call'd the vote, and some in turn
 Were screaming high, " Adjourn, adjourn."
 Not chaos heard such jars and clashes
 When all the el'ments fought for places.
 Each bludgeon soon for blows was tin'd ;
 Each fist stood ready cock'd and prim'd ;
 The storm each moment louder grew ;
 His sword the great M'Fingal drew,
 Prepar'd in either chance to share,
 To keep the peace, or aid the war,
 Nor lack'd they each poetic being,
 Whom bards alone are skill'd in seeing ;
 Plum'd Victory stood perch'd on high,
 Upon the pulpit-canopy,
 To join, as is her custom tried,
Like Indians, on the strongest side :

The Destinies, with shears and distaff,
Drew near, their threads of life to twist off;
The Furies 'gan to feast on blows,
And broken heads or bloody nose;
When on a sudden, from without,
Arose a loud terrific shout;
And straight the people all at once heard
Of tongues an universal concert;
Like *Æsop's* times, as fable runs,
When ev'ry creature talk'd at once;
Or like the varigated gabble
That craz'd the carpenters of Babel:
Each party soon forgot the quarrel,
And let the other go on parole;
Eager to know what fearful matter
Had conjur'd up such gen'ral clatter;
And left the church in thin array,
As though it had been lecture-day.
Our 'Squire M'Fingal straightway beckon'd
The constable to stand his second,
And sallied forth, with aspect fierce,
The croud assembled to disperse,
The moderator, out of view,
Beneath a bench had lain perdu;
Peep'd up his head to view the fray,
Beheld the wranglers run away,
And, left alone, with solemn face,
Adjourn'd them without time or place.

END OF THE SECOND CANTO.

M'FINGAL.

CANTO THIRD.

THE LIBERTY-POLE.

NOW, arm'd with ministerial ire,
Forth sallied forth our loyal 'Squire,
And on his striding steps attends
His desp'rate clan of Tory friends ;
When sudden met his angry eye,
A pole ascending through the sky,
Which num'rous throngs of Whiggish race
Where raising in the market-place ;
Not higher school-boys' kites aspire,
Or royal mast, or country spire,
Like spears at Brobdingnagian tilting
Or Satan's walking staff in Milton ;
And its top the flag, unfurl'd
Wav'd triumph o'er a prostrate world,
Inscrib'd with inconsistent types
Of *liberty* and *thirteen stripes*.
Beneath, the crowd without delay,
The dedication-rites essay,
And gladly pay, in ancient fashion,
The ceremonies of libation ;

While briskly to each patriot lip
Walks eager round th' inspiring flip :*
Delicious draught, whose pow'rs inherit
The quintessence of public spirit !
Which whoso tastes perceives his mind
To nobler politics refin'd,
Or rous'd for martial controversy,
As from transforming cups of Circe ;
Or warm'd with Homer's nectar'd liquor,
That fill'd the veins of gods with ichor.
At hand, for new supplies in store,
The tavern opes its friendly door,
Whence to and fro the waiters run,
Like bucket-men, at fires in town.
Then with three shouts that tore the sky,
'Tis consecrate to Liberty :
To guard it from th' attacks of Tories,
A grand committee cull'd of four is,
Who, foremost on the patriot spot,
Had bought the flip, and paid the shot.

By this. M'Fingal, with his train,
'Advanc'd upon th' adjacent plain,
And fierce, with royal rage possess'd,
Pour'd forth the zeal that fir'd his breast.
" What mad-brain'd rebel gave commission
To raise this May-pole of sedition ?

* *Flip* is a liquor composed of beer, rum, and sugar.

Like Babel rear'd by bawling throngs,
With like confusion, too, of tongues,
To point at Heav'n, and summon down
The thunders of the British crown ?
Say will this paltry pole secure
Your forfeit heads from Gage's pow'r ?
Attack'd by heroes, brave and crafty,
Is this to stand your ark of safety ?
Or, driv'n by Scottish laird and ladie,
Think ye to rest beneath its shadow ?
When bombs, like fiery serpents, fly,
And balls move hissing through the sky,
Will this vile pole, devote to freedom,
Save, like the Jewish pole in Edom,
Or, like the brazen snake of Moses,
Cure your crack'd skulls and batter'd noses ?
Ye dupes to ev'ry factious rogue
Or tavern-prating demagogue,
Whose tongue but rings, with sound more full,
On th' empty drumhead of his skull ;
Behold you not, what noisy fools,
Use you, worse simpletons, for tools ?
For Liberty, in your own by-sense,
Is but for crimes a patent license ;
To break of law th' Egyptian yoke,
And throw the world in common stock ;
Reduce all grievances and illa

To Magna Charta of your wills ;
 Establish cheats, and frauds and nonsense,
 Fram'd by the model of your conscience ;
 Cry justice down, as out of fashion,
 And fix its scale of depreciation ;
 Defy all creditors to trouble ye,
 And pass new years of Jewish jubilee ;
 Drive judges out, like Aaron's calves,
 By jurisdiction of white staves,
 And make the bar, and bench, and steeple,
 Submit t' our sovereign Lord, the People ;
 Assure each knave his whole assets,
 By gen'ral amnesty of debts ;
 By plunder rise to pow'r and glory,
 And brand all property as Tory ;
 Expose all wares to lawful seizures
 Of mobbers and monopolizers ;
 Break heads, and windows, and the peace,
 For your own interest and increase ;
 Dispute, and pray, and fight, and groan,
 For public good, and mean your own ;
 Prevent the laws, by fierce attacks,
 From quitting scores upon your backs ;

* Alluding to the depreciation of the con-
 per-money. The declining value of this Cr
 ascertained and declared by Congress, in what
 scale of depreciation. See more of this subject in

Lay your old dread, the gallows, low,
And seize the stocks, your ancient foe,
And turn them as convenient engines
To wreak your patriotic vengeance ;
While all, your claims who understand,
Confess they're in the owners hand :
And when by clamors and confusions,
Your freedom's grown a public nuisance,
Cry, *Liberty*, with pow'rful yearning,
As he does, *fire*, whose house is burning,
Though he already has much more,
Than he can find occasion for,
While ev'ry dunce, that turns the plains,
Though bankrupt in estate and brains,
By this new light transform'd to traitor,
Forsakes his plough to turn dictator,
Starts at haranguing chief of Whigs,
And drags you by the ears like pigs.
All bluster arm'd with factious license,
Transform'd at once to politicians ;
Each leather-apron'd clown grown wise,
Presents his forward face t' advise,
And tatter'd legislators meet
From ev'ry workshop through the street ;
His goose the tailor finds new use in,
To patch and turn the constitution ;

To Magna Charta of your wills ;
Estab'lish cheats, and frauds and nonsense,
Form'd by the model of your conscience ;
Cry justice down, as out of fashion,
And fix its scale of depreciation ;*
Defy all creditors to trouble ye,
And pass new years of Jewish jubilee ;
Drive judges out, like Aaron's calves,
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Submit t' our sovereign Lord, the People ;
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Expose all wares to lawful seizures
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Break heads, and windows, and the peace,
For your own interest and increase ;
Dispute, and pray, and fight, and groan,
For public good, and mean your own ;
Prevent the laws, by fierce attacks,
From quitting scores upon your backs ;

* Alluding to the depreciation of the continental paper-money. The declining value of this Currency ascertained and declared by Congress, in what is called *scale of depreciation*. See more of this subject in the last C.

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And seize the stocks, your ancient foe,
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To wreak your patriotic vengeance ;
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Your freedom's grown a public nuisance,
Cry, *Liberty*, with pow'rful yearning,
As he does, *fire*, whose house is burning,
Though he already has much more,
Than he can find occasion for,
While ev'ry dunce, that turns the plains,
Though bankrupt in estate and brains,
By this new light transform'd to traitor,
Forsakes his plough to turn dictator,
Starts at haranguing chief of Whigs,
And drags you by the ears like pigs.
All bluster arm'd with factious license,
Transform'd at once to politicians ;
Each leather-apron'd clown grown wise,
Presents his forward face t' advise,
And tatter'd legislators meet
From ev'ry workshop through the street ;
His goose the tailor finds new use in,
To patch and turn the constitution ;

The blacksmith comes with sledge and grate,
To iron-bind the wheels of state ;
The quack forbears his patient's souce,
To purge the Council and the House ;
The tinker quits his moulds and doxias,
To cast assembly men at proxies:
From dunghills deep of sable hue,
Your dirt-bred patriots spring to view,
To wealth and pow'r and pension rise,
Like new-wing'd maggots chang'd to flies ;
And flutt'ring round in proud parade,
Strut in the robe or gay cockade.
So Ar—d* quits, for ways more certain,
His bankrupt perjuries for his fortune ;
Brews rum no longer in his store,
Jockey and skipper now no more ;
Forsakes his warehouses and docks,
And wits of slander for the pox,
And purg'd by patriotism from shame,
Grows Gen'ral of the foremost name.

* " Ar—d's perjuries at the time of his preter-
ruptcy, which was the first rise of his fortune ; a
ous law-suit against a brother-skipper, who had
with having caught the above mentioned dis-
connexion with a certain African princess i
Indies, with its humorous issue, are matters
so generally known, as the other circumstan-
lic and private character."

*Hiatus.**

in this ferment of the stream,
 dregs have work'd up to the brim,
 I by the rule of topsy-turveys,
 e skum stands swelling on the surface.
 u've caus'd your pyram' d t' ascend,
 and set it on the little end ;
 like Hudibras, your empire's made,
 whose crupper had o'er-top'd his head ;
 ou've push'd and turn'd the whole world up-
 side down, and got yourselves a-top :
 While all the great ones of your state,
 Are crush'd beneath the pop'lar weight ;
 Nor can you boast this present hour,
 The shadow of the form of pow'r.
 For what's your congress,† or its end ?
 A pow'r t' advise and recommend ;
 To call for troops adjust your quotas,

* " M'Fingal having here inserted the names and characters of several great men, whom the public have not yet fully detected, it is thought proper to omit sundry paragraphs of his speech in the present edition."

† The author here, in a true strain of patriotic censure, pointed out the principal defects in the first federal Constitution of the United States ; all which have been since removed in the New Constitution, established in the year 1789. So that the prophecy below, *You'll ne'er have seen enough to mend it, must be ranked among the other sage blunders of his second sighted hero.*

And yet no soul is bound to notice ;
To pawn your faith to th' utmost limit,
But cannot bind you to redeem it,
And, when in want, no more in them lies
Than begging of your State-assemblies ;
Can utter oracles of dread,
Like friar Bacon's brazen head ;
But should a faction e'er dispute 'em,
Has ne'er an arm to execute 'em,
As though you chose supreme dictators,
And put them under conservators ;
You've but pursu'd the self-same way,
With Shakespeare's Trinklo in the play,
" You shall be viceroys, here, 'tis true,
But we'll be viceroys over you."
What wild confusion hence must ensue,
Though common danger yet cements you !
So some wreck'd vessel, all in shatters,
Is held up by surrounding waters ;
But stranded, when the pressure ceases,
Falls by its rottenness to pieces :
And fall it must—if wars were ended,
You'll ne'er have sense enough to mend it
But creeping on with low intrigues,
Like vermin on a hundred legs,
Will find as short a life assign'd,
As all things else of reptile kind.

our Commonwealth's a common harlot,
 the property of ev'ry varlet,
 which now in taste and full employ,
 all sorts admire, as all enjoy ;
 but soon, a batter'd strumpet grown,
 will curse and drum her out of town.
 which is the government you chose ;
 which this you bade the world be foes ;
 which this, so mark'd for dissolution,
 will scorn the British constitution ;
 that constitution, form'd by sages,
 the wonder of all modern ages :
 which owns no failure in reality
 except corruption and venality ;
 which only proves the adage just,
 that best things spoil'd, corrupt to worst :
 man, supreme in mortal station,
 and mighty lord of this creation,
 when once his corse is dead as herring,
 becomes the most offensive carrion,
 and sooner breeds the plague, 'tis found,
 than all beasts rotting 'bove the ground.
 for this government, to dismay us,
 I've call'd up Anarchy from Chaos,
 with all the followers of her school,
 roar, and Rage, and wild Minstrel ;
 whom this rout of Whigs conducted

And ravings dire of ev'ry crack'd head ;
These new-cast legislative engines
Of country musters and conventions,
Committees vile of correspondence,
And, mobs, whose tricks have almost und
While reason fails to check your course,
And loyalty's kick'd out of doors.
And folly, like inviting landlord,
Hoists on your poles her royal standard.
While the king's friends in doleful dumps
Have worn their courage to the stumps,
And leaving George in sad disaster,
Most sinfully deny'd their master.
What furies rag'd, when you in sea,
In shape of Indians, drown'd the tea ;*
When your gay sparks, fatigued to watch
Assum'd the moggison and hatchet,
With wampum'd blankets hid their laces,
And, like their sweethearts, prim'd their f
While not a Red-coat dar'd oppose,
And scarce a Tory show'd his nose ;
While Hutchinson for sure retreat,
Manœuvred to his country seat,
And thence affrighted in the suds,
Stole off bare-headed through the woods !

* The persons who destroyed the cargo of tea,
referred to, were disguised in the habit of Indians

Have you not rous'd your mobs to join,
And make mandamus men resign,
Call'd forth each duffil-dress't curmudgeon,
With dirty trowsers and white bludgeon,
Forc'd all our councils through the land ;
To yield their necks to your command ;
While paleness marks their late disgraces,
Through all their rueful length of faces !
Have you not caus'd as woful work,
In loyal city of New-York,*
When all the rabble, well cockaded,
In triumph through the streets paraded ;
And mobb'd the Tories, scard their spouses,
And ransack'd all the custom-houses ;
Made such a tumult, bluster, jarring,
That mid the clash of tempests warring,
Smith's weathercock, with veers forlorn,†
Could hardly tell which way to turn ;
Burnt effigies of th' Higher Powers,
Contriv'd in planetary hours,
As witches, with clay images,
Destroy or torture whom they please :

* There were so many influential Tories in New-York, that they at first obtained a vote in favour of the Acts of Parliament, and against the proceedings of the first Congress.

† William Smith, formerly a lawyer in New-York.

Till, fir'd with rage, th' ungrateful club,
 Spar'd not your best friend, Beelzebub,
 O'erlook'd his favors, and forgot
 The rev'rence due t' his cloven foot,
 And in the self-same furnace frying,
 Burn'd him, and North, and Bute, and Tr
 Did you not in as vile and shallow way,
 Fright our poor Philadelphian, Galloway,[†]
 Your Congress when the daring ribald
 Belied, berated, and bescribbled ?
 What ropes and halters did you send,
 Terrific emblems of his end,
 Till, lest he'd hang in more than effigy,
 Fled in a fog the trembling refugee ?
 Now rising in progression fatal,
 Have you not ventur'd to give battle ?
 When treason chac'd our heroes troubled,
 With rusty gun and leathern doublet,
 Turn'd all stone-walls, and groves, and bu

* Tryon, being now dead, is probably forgot.
 reader must know that he was governor of New
 and a British general during the war. He had the g
 burning the towns of Fairfield and Norwalk, and of i
 many proclamations. The other personages that m
 this *kettle of fish*. Bute, Beelzebub, and North, are sti
 ing and therefore want no explanation.

† Galloway began by being a flaming patriot. He
 of the few men who proved a traitor to his country,
 against it, and ran away.

To batt'ries arm'd with blunderbusses,
And with deep wounds, that fate portend,
Gall'd many a Reg'lar's latter end,
Drove them to Boston, as in jail,
Confin'd without main-prize or bail.
Were not these deeds enough betimes,
To heap the measure of your crimes,
But in this loyal town and dwelling,
You raise these ensigns of rebellion ?
'Tis done ; fair Mercy shuts her door ;
And Vengeance now shall sleep no more ;
Rise then, my friends. in terror rise,
And wipe this scandal from the skies !
You'll see their Dagon, though well jointed,
Will sink before the Lord's anointed,
And like old Jericho's proud wall,
Before our ram's horns prostrate fall.*

This said our 'Squire, yet unflinching,
Call'd forth the constable to aid,
And made him read in nearer station,
The riot-act and proclamation ;*
Who, now advancing tow'rd the ring,
Began, " Our sovereign Lord the King"—

* *Reading the Riot-act* has the same miraculous effect in America as in England : it may convert any collection of men into a riot, and is the tremendous prologue to any tragedy that may result from the exercise of Martial Law.

When thousand clam'rous tongues he h
And clubs and stones assail his ears ;
To fly was vain, to fight was idle,
By foes encompass'd in the middle ;
In stratagem his aid he found,
And fell right craftily to ground ;
Then crept to seek a hiding place,
'Twas all he could, beneath a brace ;
Where soon the conqu'ring crew espied
And where he lurk'd, they caught and ti
At once with resolution fatal,
Both Whigs and Tories rush'd to battle
Instead of weapons, either band
Seiz'd on such arms as came to hand.
And as fam'd Ovid* paints th' adventur
Of wrangling Lapithæ and Centaurs,
Who at their feast, by Bacchus led,
Threw bottles at each other's head,
And these arms failing in their scuffles,
Attack'd with handirons, tongs, and sho
So clubs and billets, staves and stones
Met fierce, encountering every sconce,
And cover'd o'er with knobs and pains
Each void receptacle for brains ;
Their clamours rend the hills around,
And earth rebellows with the sound ;

* "Ovid's Metamorphoses, Book xii."

And many a groan increas'd the din
From broken nose and batter'd shin.
M'Fingal, rising at the word,
Drew forth his old militia sword ;
Thrice cried, " King George," as erst in distress
Romancing heroes did their mistress,
And, brandishing the blade in air,
Struck terror through th' opposing war.
The whigs, unsafe within the wind
Of such commotion, shrunk behind.
With whirling steel around address'd
Fierce through their thickest throng he press'd,
(Who roll'd on either side in arch,
Like Red-sea waves in Israel's march)
And like a meteor rushing through,
Struck on their pole a vengeful blow.
Around, the Whigs, of clubs and stones
Discharg'd whole vollies in platoons,
That o'er in whistling terror fly ;
But not a foe dares venture nigh.
And now, perhaps, with conquest crown'd,
Our 'Squire had fell'd their pole to ground,
Had not some pow'r, a Whig at heart,
Descended down and took their part ;
(Whether 'twere Pallas, Mars, or Iris,
'Tis scarce worth while to make inquiries,)
Who at the nick of time alarming,

Assum'd the graver form of Chairman ;
 Address'd a Whig, in ev'ry scene
 The stoutest wrestler on the green,
 And pointed where the spade was found,
 Late us'd to fix the pole in ground,
 And urg'd with equal arms and might
 To dare our 'Squire to single fight.†
 The Whig, thus arm'd, untaught to yield,
 Advanc'd tremendous to the field ;
 Nor did M'Fingal shun the foe,
 But stood to brave the desp'rate blow ;
 While all the party gaz'd, suspended,
 To see the deadly combat ended.
 And Jove in equal balance weigh'd
 The sword against the brandish'd spade :
 He weigh'd ; but lighter than a dream,
 The sword flew up, and kick'd the beam.
 • Our 'Squire on tiptoe rising fair,
 Lints high a noble stroke in air,
 2 Which hung not, but like dreadful engines
 Descended on the foe in vengeance.
 But ah ! in danger with dishonor,
 The sword perfidious falls its owner ;
 The sword, which oft had stood its ground

* " The learned reader will readily observe the allusion in this scene to the single combat of Paris and Menelaus in Homer ; Aeneas and Turnus in Virgil, and Michael and Satan in Milton."

By huge train-bands encompass'd round,*
Or on the bench, with blade right loyal,
Had won the day at many a trial,
Of stones and clubs had brav'd th' alarms,
Shrunk from these new Vulcanian arms.
The spade so temper'd from the sledge,
Nor keen nor solid harm'd its edge,
Now met it from his arm of might
Descending with steep force to smite ;
The blade snapp't short—and from his hand
With rust embrown'd the glut'ring sand.
Swift turn'd M'Fingal at the view,
And call'd for aid the attendant crew,
In vain ; the Tories all had run,
When scarce the fight was well begun ;
Their setting wigs he saw decreas'd,
Far in th' horizon tow'rd the west.
Amaz'd he view'd the shameful sight,
And saw no refuge but in flight :
But age unwieldly check'd his pace,
Though fear had wing'd his flying race ;
For not a trifling prize at stake ;
No less than great M'Fingal's back.
With legs and arms he work'd his course,
Like rider that outgoes his horse,

† A *train band* is a Captain's company in the Militia.

And labor'd hard to get away, as
Old Satan* struggling on through Chaos:
Till, looking back, he spied in rear
The space arn'd chief advanc'd too near.
Then stopp'd and seiz'd a stone that lay,
An ancient land mark near the way;
Nor shall we, as old Bards have done,
Affirm it weigh'd an hundred ton;
But such a stone as at a shift
A modern might suffice to lift.
Since men, to credit their enigmas,
Are dwindled down to dwarfs and pigmies,
And giants, exil'd with their cronies,
To Brobdignags and Patagonies.
But while our hero turn'd him round,
And stoop'd to raise it from the ground,
The deadly spade discharg'd a blow
Tremendous on his rear below:
His bent knee fall'd, and, void of strength,
Stretch'd on the ground his manly length;
Like ancient oak o'erturn'd, he lay,
Or tow'rs to tempests fall'n a prey,
And more things else—but all men know
If slightly vers'd in epic poem.
At once the crew at this sad crisis,
Fall on and bind him ere he rises,

And with loud shouts and joyful soul
Conduct him pris'ner to the pole.

When now the mob in lucky hour,
Had got their en'mies in their pow'r,
They first proceed by wise command,
To take the Constable in hand;
Then from the pole's sublimest top
They speeded to let down the rope,
At once its other end in haste bind,
And make it fast upon his waistband,
Till, like the earth, as stretch'd on tenter,
He hung self-balanced on his centre.
Then upwards, all hands hoisting sail,
They swung him, like a keg of ale,
Till to the pinnacle so fair,
He rose like meteor in the air.
As Socrates* of old at first did,
To aid philosophy, get hoisted,
And found his thoughts flow strangely clear,
Swung in a basket in mid air:
Our culprit thus in purer sky,
With like advantage rais'd his eye;
And looking forth in prospect wide,
His Tory errors clearly spy'd,
And from his elevated station,

* Socrates is represented in Aristophanes's comedy of the clouds, as hoisted in a basket to aid contemplation.

With bawling voice began addressing :
“ Good gentlemen, and friends, and kin,
For Heav’n’s sake hear, if not for mine !
I here renounce the Pope, the Turks,
The King, the Devil and all their works ;
And will, set me but once at ease,
Turn Whig or Christian what you please ;
And always mind your laws as justly ;
Should I live long as old Methus’lah,
I’ll never join with British rage,
Nor help Lord North, or General Gage,
Nor lift my gun in future fights,
Nor take away your charter’d rights ;
Nor overcome your new-rai’s’d levies,
Destroy your towns, nor burn your navies ;
Nor cut your poles down while I’ve breath,
Though rais’d more thick than hatchel-teeth
But leave King George and all his elves
To do their conqu’ring work them selves.”

This said, they low’r’d him down in state,
Spread at all points, like falling cat ;
But took a vote first on the question,
That they’d accept this full confession,
And to their fellowship and favor
Restore him on his good behavior,
Not so, our ’Squire submits to rule,

'You'll find it all in vain," quoth he,
"To play your rebel tricks on me.
All punishment the world can render,
Serve only to provoke th' offender ;
The will's confirm'd by treatment horrid,
As hides grow harder when they're curried ;
No man e'er felt the halter draw,
With good opinion of the law ;
Or held, in method orthodox,
His love of justice in the stocks ;
Or fail'd to lose by sheriff's shears
At once his loyalty and ears.
Have you made Murray look less big,
Or smok'd old Williams to a Whig ?
Did our mobb'd Ol'ver* quit his station,

* This is the "Chief-Judge Oliver" of the first Canto, in whose appointment the sagacious M'Fingal perceives that Heaven had no hand. One ground of the quarrel between the British government and the people of Massachusetts, was the act by which the Judges of the Colony were rendered independent of the Colony for their salary, as well as for their places, which was contrary to ancient usage. When the people felt these particular acts of oppression from a power three thousand miles distant, their only method of redress was, to prevent any person from accepting an office, or exercising its functions, under such an act. This expedient had been successful in the case of the Stamp-act a few years before ; and the people now applied to Judge Oliver, requesting him to resign an office, the new arrangement of which so manifestly struck at the founda-

Or heed his vows of resignation ?
 Has Rivington,* in dread of stripes,
 Ceas'd lying since you stole his types ?
 And can you think my faith will alter,
 By tarring, whipping, or the halter ?
 I'll stand the worst ; for recompense
 I trust King George and Providence.
 And when our conquest gain'd, I com
 Array'd in law and terror, home,
 You'll rue this in auspicious morn,
 And curse the day you e'er were born,
 In Job's high stile of imprecations,
 With all his plagues, without his patie
 Meanwhile beside the pole, the guai
 A bench of justice had prepar'd,
 Where, sitting round in awful sort,
 The grand committee hold their court ;
 While all the crew, in silent awe,

tion of their liberty. The Judge promised to
 place ; but afterwards claimed that "*highest
 speech*," which M'Fingal has so well vindicated
 General Gage.

* Here again is an old acquaintance of the first
 His paper, entitled *The Royal Gazette* had, by a sti
 bination of circumstances, obtained the name, t
 the country, of *The Lying Gazette* It was on th
 that the people at a certain time sent a commit
 away his types. But this measure was as ineffectu
 that were used with Murray, Williams, Oliver,

it from their lips the lore of law.
 / moments with deliberation,
 ey hold the solemn consultation,
 hen soon in judgment all agree,
 id Clerk declares the dread decree :
 That 'Squire M'Fingal having grown
 he vilest Tory in the town,
 and now on full examination,
 convicted by his own confession,
 Finding no tokens of repentance,
 This Court proceed to render sentence :
 That first the Mob a slip-knot single
 Tie round the neck of said M'Fingal ;
 And in due form do tar him next,
 And feather, as the law directs ;
 Then through the town attendant ride him,
 In cart, with Constable beside him ;
 And having held him up to shame,
 Bring to the pole from whence he came."
 Forthwith the crowd proceed to deck,
 With halter'd noose, M'Fingal's neck,
 While he, in peril of his soul.
 Stood ty'd half hanging to the pole ;
 'Then lifting high the pond'rous jar,
 Pour'd o'er his head the smoking tar :
 With less profusion erst was spread
 The Jewish oil on royal head,

That down his beard and vestments ran,
And cover'd all his outward man.
As when (so Claudian sings*) the gods
And earth-born giants fell at odds,
The stout Enceladus in malice
Tore mountains up to throw at Pallas;
And as he held them o'er his head,
The river, from their fountains fed,
Pour'd down his back its copious tide,
And wore its channels in his hide :
So from the high-rais'd urn, the torrents
Spread down his side their various curre
His flowing wig, as next the brim,
First met and drank the sable stream ;
Adown his visage, stern and grave,
Roll'd and adher'd the viscid wave ;
With arms depending as he stood,
Each cuff capacious holds the flood ;
From nose and chin's remotest end,
The tarry icicles depend ;
Till all o'erspread, with colors gay,
He glitter'd to the western ray,
Like sleet-bound trees in wintry skies,
Or Lapland idol carv'd in ice.
And now the feather-bag display'd,
Is wav'd in triumph o'er his head,

* "Claudian's Gigantomachia."

And spread h'm o'er with feathers missive,
 And down, upon the tar adhesive :
 Not Maia's son, with wings for ears,
 Such plumes around his visage wears ;
 Nor Milton's six-wing'd angel gathers
 Such superfluity of feathers ;
 Till all complete appears our 'Squire
 Like Gorgon or Chimera dire ;
 No more could boast on Plato's * plan
 To rank amid the race of man,
 Or prove his claim to hum in nature,
 As a two-legged, unfeather'd creature.

Then on the two-wheel'd car of state,
 They rais'd our grand Duumvirate.
 And as at Rome a like committee,
 That found an owl within their city,
 With solemn rites and sad processions,
 At ev'ry shrine perform'd lustrations ;
 And lest infection should abound,
 From prodigy with face so round,
 All Rome attends him through the street
 In triumph to his country-seat ;
 With like devotion all the choir
 Paraded round our feather'd 'Squire ;

* " Alluding to Plato's famous definition of Man, "*Animal bipede, impenne.*"

In front the martial music comes
 Of horns and fiddles, fifes and drums,
 With jingling sound of carriage bells,
 And treble creak of rusted wheels ;
 Behind the crowd, in lengthen'd row,
 With grave procession, clos'd the show.
 And at fit periods ev'ry throat
 Combin'd in universal shout,
 And hail'd great Liberty in chorus,
 Or bawl'd, Confusion to the Tories.
 Not louder storm the welkin braves,
 From clamours of conflicting waves ;
 Less dire in Lybian wilds the noise,
 When rav'ning lions lift their voice ;
 Or triumphs at town-meetings made,
 On passing votes to reg'late trade.*

Thus having borne them round the to
 Last at the pole they sat them down,
 And tow'rd the tavern take their way,
 To end in mirth the festal day.

And now the Mob, dispers'd and gone
 Left 'Squire and Constable alone.

The Constable, in rueful case,
 Lean'd sad and solemn o'er a brace,

* Such votes were frequently passed at Town in
 the object of which was, to prevent the augment
 prices on the necessaries of life, and thus to obviate
 facts of the depreciation of the paper-money.

And fast beside him cheek by jowl,
Stuck 'Squire M'Fingal 'gainst the pole;
Glued by the tar, t' his rear apply'd,
Like barnacle on vessel's side.
But though his body lack'd physician,
His spirit was in worse condition.
He found his fears of whips and ropes,
By many a drachm out-weigh'd his hopes.
As men in gaol without main-prize,
View ev'ry thing with other eyes;
And all goes wrong in Church and State,
Seen through perspective of the grate;
So now M'Fingal's second-sight
Beheld all things in different light;
His visual nerve, well purg'd with tar,
Saw all the coming scenes of war.
As his prophetic soul grew stronger,
He found he could hold in no longer:
First from the pole, as fierce he shook,
His wig from pitchy durance broke,
His mouth unglu'd, his feathers flutter'd,
His tarr'd skirts crack'd, and thus he utter'd;
" Ah, Mr. Constable, in vain
We strive 'gainst wind, and tide, and rain!
Behold my doom! this feather'd omen
Portends what dismal times are coming.
Now future scenes before my eyes,

And second-sighted forms arise ;
I hear a voice that calls away,
And cries, The Whigs will win the day :
My beck'ning genius gives command,
And bids us fly the fatal land ;
Where changing name and constitution,
Rebellion turns to Revolution,
While Loyalty, oppress'd in tears,
Stands trembling for his neck and ears.
Go, summon all our brethren greeting,
To muster at our usual meeting.
There my prophetic voice shall warn 'em,
Of all things future that concern 'em,
And scenes disclose, on which my friends
Their conduct and their lives depend :
There I—but first 'tis more of use,
From this vile pole to set me loose ;
Then go with cautious steps and steady,
While I steer home and make all ready.

END OF THE THIRD CANTO.

M'FINGAL.

CANTO FOURTH.

THE VISION.

NOW night came down, and rose full soon
That patroness of rogues, the Moon,
Beneath whose kind protecting ray,
Wolves, brute and human, prowl for prey.
The honest world all snor'd in chorus,
While owls, and ghosts, and thieves and Tories.
Whom erst the mid-day sun had aw'd,
Crept from their lurking holes abroad.
On cautious hinges, slow and stiller
Wide op'd the great M'Fingal's* cellar,
Where shut from prying eyes in cluster,
The Tory Pandemonium muster.
Their chiefs all sitting round descry'd are,
On kegs of ale, and seats of cider ;
When first M'Fingal, dimly seen,
Rose solemn from the turnip-bin.
Nor yet his form† had wholly lost

* " Panditur interna domus omnipotentis Olympi,
Conciliumq; vocat Divum pater atq; hominum rex
Sideream in ædem." Lib. 10. *Æneid*.

† " ——— His form had not yet lost
All its original brightness, nor appear'd
Less than Archangel ruin'd." 12 Milton.

The orig'nal brightness it could boast,
Nor less appear'd than Justice Quorum,
In feather'd majesty before 'em.
Adown his tar-streak'd visage clear
Fell glist'ning fast th' indignant tear,
And thus his voice, in mournful wise,
Pursu'd the prologue of his sighs :

“ Brethren and friends, the glorious band
Of loyalty in rebel land !

It was not thus you've seen me sitting
Return'd in triumph from town meeting,
When blust'ring Whigs were put to stand,
And votes obey'd my guiding hand,
And new commissions pleas'd my eyes ;
Blest days, but, ah, no more to rise !
Alas ! against my better light
And optics sure of second-sight,
My stubborn soul, in error strong,
Had faith in Hutchinson too long.
See what brave trophies still we bring
From all our battles for the king ;
And yet these plagues now past before us,
Are but our entering-wedge of sorrows.
I see in glooms tempestuous, stand
The cloud impending o'er the land ;
That cloud, which still beyond their hopes
Serves all our orators with tropes,

Which, though from our own vapors fed,
 Shall point its thunders on our head !
 I see the Mob, beslipp'd in taverns,
 Hunt us, like wolves, through wilds and caverns ;
 What dungeons rise t' alarm our tears,
 What horse-whips whistle round our ears !
 Tar, yet in embryo in the pine,
 Shall run, on Tories' backs to shine ;
 Trees rooted fair in groves of fallows
 Are growing for our future gallows ;
 And geese unhatch'd, when pluck'd in fray,
 Shall rue the feath'ring of that day.
 For me before these fatal days,
 I mean to fly th' accursed place,
 And follow omens which of late
 Have warn'd me of impending fate ;
 Yet pass'd unnotic'd o'er my view,
 Till sad conviction prov'd them true ;
 As prophecies of best intent,
 Are only heeded in th' event.

“ For late in visions of the night
 The gallows stood before my sight ;
 I saw its ladder heav'd on end ;
 I saw the deadly rope descend ;
 And in its noose, that wav'ring swang,
 Friend Malcolm* nung or seem'd to hang.

* “ Malcolm was a Scotchman, Aid to Governor Tryon.

How chang'd from him, who bold as lion
 Stood Aid-de-camp to Gov'nor Tryon ;
 Made rebels vanish once, like witches,
 And sav'd his life, but dropp'd his breeches !
 I scarce had made a fearful bow,
 And trembling ask'd him, " How d'ye do !"
 When, lifting up his eyes so wide,
 (His eyes alone—his hands were ty'd ;)
 With feeble voice, as spirits use,
 Now almost choak'd with gripe of noose ;
 " Ah !† fly, my friend," he cry'd, " escape,
 And keep yourself from this sad scrape ;
 Enough you've talk'd, and writ, and plann'd ;
 The Whigs have got the upper hand.
 Dame Fortune's wheel has turn'd so short,
 It plung'd us fairly in the dirt ;

in his expeditinn agrinst the Regulators in North Carolina where, in the engagement, he met with the accident of th breeches here alluded to. He was afterwards an under-officer of the customs in Boston, where, becoming obnoxious he was tarred, feathered, and half-hanged by the mob, about the year 1774. After this, he was neglected and voided by his own party, and thinking his merits and sufferings unrewarded, appeared equally malevolent again Whigs and Tories."

" The pretences of the Highlanders to prophecy by a cond-sight are too well known to need an explanation."

† There is in this scene a general allusion to the appearance and speech of Hecstor's ghost, in the second book of the *Æneid*.

Could mortal arm our fears have ended,
This arm (and shook it) had defended.
But longer now 'tis vain to stay ;
See, ev'n the Reg'lars run away ;
Wait not till things grow desperater,
For hanging is no laughing matter :
This might your grandsire's fortunes tell you on,
Who both were hang'd the last rebellion ;
Adventure, then, no longer stay,
But call your friends, and run away.
For lo, through deepest gloom of night,
I come to aid thy second sight,
Disclose the plagues that round us wait,
And wake the dark decrees of fate.
Ascend this ladder, whence unfurl'd
The curtain opens on t' other world ;
For here new worlds their scenes unfold,
Seen from this back-door of the old.†
As when Æneas risk'd his life,
Like Orpheus vent'ring for his wife,
And bore in show his mortal carcass,
Through realms of Erebus and Orcus,
Then in the happy fields Elysian,
Saw all his embryo sons in vision :

* That the gallows is the *back-door* leading from this to the other world, is a perfectly new idea in Epic Poetry ; unless the hint might be taken from the rear-trumpet of *Jane in Hudibras*.

As shown by great archangel, Michael,
Old Adam saw the world's whole sequel,
And from the mount's extended space,
The rising fortunes of his race ;
So from this stage shalt thou behold
The war its coming scenes unfold,
Rais'd by my arm to meet thine eye ;
My Adam, thou ; thine angel, I.
But first my pow'r, for visions* bright,
Must cleanse from clouds thy mental sight
Remove the dim suffusions spread,
Which bribes and sal'ries there have bred
And from the well of Bute, infuse
Three genuine drops of Highland dew,
To purge, like euphrasy and rue,
Thine eyes, for much thou hast to view.

“ Now, freed from Tory darkness, raise
Thy head, and spy the coming days ;
For lo, before our second-sight,
The Continent ascends in light ;
From north to south, what gath'ring swar
Increase the pride of rebel arms !
Through ev'ry State, our legions brave
Speed gallant marches to the grave,
Of battling Whigs the frequent prize,
While rebel trophies stain the skies.

* “ See Milton's *Paradise Lost*, Book 11.

Behold, o'er northern realms afar,*
Extend the kindling flames of war !
See fam'd St. John's and Montreal,
Doom'd by Montgom'ry's arm to fall !
Where Hudson with majestic sway,
Through hills disparted ploughs his way
Fate spreads on Bemus' Heights alarms,
And pours destruction on our arms ;
There Bennington's ensanguin'd plain,
And Stony-Point, the prize of Wayne.

* Nothing less than the whole History of the American War would be sufficient, completely to illustrate the merits of this single paragraph. Malcolm the gallows-taught prophet, in preparing the mind of M'Fingal to contemplate, with proper intelligence, the various scenes that are to rise successively to view in the course of the Vision, glances over the Continent, and mentions in this passage the principal scenes of action, from the expedition into Canada in 1775, to the capture of Lord Cornwallis in 1781. The concluding part of his speech is therefore a kind of *argument* to this whole book of Vision ; in which the same objects are unfolded at large, with their attendant circumstances ; in order that they may make a proper impression on the elevated mind of the great M'Fingal. It is thus that our Poet, like Homer, in his Iliad, seizes all occasions to do honor to his principal hero. By supposing him already possessed of all natural and political knowledge that could be obtained by mortal study and experience, he makes him, like Achilles, capable of receiving instruction only by the agency of a super-terrestrial power. The advisers of Achilles descended from the skies, that of M'Fingal is mounted towards the skies.

Behold near Del'ware's icy roar,
Where morning dawns on Trenton
While Hessians spread their Christ
Rush rude these uninvited guests ;
Nor ought avail. to Whigs a prize,
Their martial whiskers' grisly size.
On Princeton plains our heroes yie
And spread in flight the vanquish'd
While fear to Mawhood's heels put
Wings wide, as worn by Maia's son
Behold the Pennsylvanian shore,
Enrich'd with streams of British g
Where many a vet'ran chief in bed
Of honor rests his slumb'ring head
And in soft vales, in land of foes,
Their wearied virtue finds repose.
See plund'ring Dunmore's negro b
Fly headlong from Virginia's strar
And far on southern hills, our cous
The Scotch M'Donalds. fall by do:
Or where King's Mountain lifts its
Our ruin'd hands in triumph led !
Rehold o'er Tarleton's blust'ring t
The Rebels stretch the captive cha
Afar near Entaw's fatal springs
Descending Vict'ry spreads her wi
Through all the land in various ch

We hunt the rainbow of success ;
In vain their Chief, superior still,
Eludes our force with Fabian skill ;
Or swift descending by surprise,
Like Prussia's eagle, sweeps the prize."

I look'd ; nor yet, oppress with fears,
Gave credit to my eyes or ears,
But held the views an empty dream,
On Berkley's immaterial scheme ;
And pond'ring sad, with troubled breast
At length my rising doubts express'd.

" Ah, whither thus by rebel smitten,
Is fled th' omnipotence of Britain,
Or fail'd its usual guard to keep,
Gone truanting or fall'n asleep ;*
As Baal his prophets left confounded,
And bawling vot'ries gash'd and wounded ?
Did not, retir'd to bow'rs Elysian,
Great Mars leave with her his commission,
And Neptune erst, in treaty free,

* " Cry aloud : for he is a god ; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets " 1 *Kings*, chap. xviij. The other original subjects alluded to in the subsequent part of this speech, may be found by the curious reader in the various and immortal works mentioned by the poet in the text.

Give up dominion o'er the sea ?
Else where's the faith of fam'd orations,
Address, debate, and proclamations,
Or courtly sermon, laureat ode,
And ballads on the wat'ry god ;
With whose high strains great George enri-
His eloquence of gracious speeches ?
Not faithful to our Highland eyes,
These deadly forms of vision rise ;
But sure some Whig-inspiring sprite
Now palms delusion on our sight-
I'd scarcely trust a tale so vain,
Should revelation prompt the strain,
Or Ossian's ghost the scenes rehearse,
In all the melody of Erse.*

“ To long, quoth Malcolm, with confusio
You've dwelt already in delusion,
As Sceptics. of all fools the chief,
Hold faith in creeds of unbelief.
I come to draw thy veil aside
Of error, prejudice, and pride.
Fools love deception, but the wise
Prefer sad truth to pleasing lies.
For know, those hopes can ne'er succeed
That trust on Britain's breaking reed.

* “ Erse, the ancient Scottish language, in which C
wrote his poems.”

For weak'ning long from bad to worse,
By fatal atrophy of purse,
She feels at length with trembling heart,
Her foes have found her mortal part.
As fam'd Achilles, dipt by Thetis
In Styx, as sung in ancient ditties,
Grew all case-harden'd o'er like steel,
Invulnerable, save his heel,
And laugh'd at swords and spears, as squibs,
And all diseases, but the kibes ;
Yet met at last his fatal wound,
By Paris' arrow nail'd to th' ground :
So Britain's boasted strength deserts
In these her empire's utmost skirts,
Remov'd beyond her fierce oppressions,
And atmosphere of omnipresence ;
Nor to these shores' remoter ends,
Her dwarf omnipotence extends :
Whence in this turn of things so strange,
'Tis time our principles to change.
For vain that boasted faith, which gathers
No perquisite, but tar and feathers,
No pay, but Whigs' insulting malice,
And no promotion but the gallows.
I've long enough stood firm and steady,
Half-hang'd for loyalty already :
And could I save my neck and pelf,

I'd turn a flaming Whig my self,
And quit this cause, and course, and calling,
Like rats that fly from house that's falling.
But since, obnoxious here to Fate,
This saving wisdom comes too late,
Our noblest hopes already crost,
Our sal'ries gone, our titles lost,
Doom'd to worse suff'rings from the Mob,
Than Satan's surg'ries us'd on Job ;
What more remains but now with sleight,
What's left of us to save by flight ?

“ Now raise thine eyes ; for visions true
Again ascending wait thy view.”
I look'd ; and, clad in early light,
The spires of Boston rose to sight ;
The morn o'er eastern hills afar,
Illumin'd the varying scenes of war.
Great Howe had long since in the lap
Of Loring taken out his nap,
And with the sun's ascending ray,
The cuckold came to take his pay.
When all th' encircling hills around,
With instantaneous breast-works crown'd,
With pointed thunders met his sight,
By magic rear'd the former night,
Each summit far, as eye commands,
Shone peopled with rebellious bands.

Aloft their tow'ring heroes rise,
 As Titans erst assail'd the skies,
 Leagu'd with superior force to prove,
 The sceptred hand of British Jove.
 Found, pil'd on hills, ascended fair,
 With batt'ries plac'd in middle air,
 That, rais'd like angry clouds on high
 Seem'd like th' artill'ry of the sky,
 And hurl'd their fiery bolts amain,
 In thunder on the trembling plain.
 I saw along the prostrate strand,
 Our baff'd gen'als quit the land;
 And, swift as frightened mermaids, flee,
 F' our boasted element, the sea!
 Resign that long contested shore,
 Again the prize of rebel-power,
 And tow'rd their town of refuge fly,
 Like convict Jews, condemn'd to die.
 Then tow'rd the north I turn'd my eyes,
 Where Saratoga's heights arise,
 And saw our chosen vet'ran band,
 Descend in terror o'er the land;
 T' oppose their fury of alarms,
 Saw all New-England wake to arms,
 And ev'ry Yankey, full of mettle,
 Swarm forth, like bees at sound of kettle.

Not Rome, when Tarquin rap'd Lu
Saw wilder must'ring of militia.
Through all the woods and plains of
What mortal battles fill'd my sight,
While British corsees strew'd the sho
And Hudson ting'd his streams with
What tongue can tell the dismal day
Or paint the party-colour'd fray ;
When yeomen left their fields afar,
To plough the crimson plains of war
When zeal to swords transform'd th
And turn'd their pruning hooks to s
Chang'd tailor's geese to guns and b
And stretch'd to pike the cobbler's aw
While hunters fierce like mighty N
Made on our troops a daring inroad
And lev'ling squint on barrel round
Brought our beau-officers to ground
While rifle-frocks sent gen'ral's cap'
And Red-coats shrunk from leather
And epaulet and gorget run
From whinyard brown and rusty gun
While sun-burnt wigs, in high com
Rush furious on our frighted band,
And ancient beards and hoary hair,
Like meteors stream in troubled air
With locks unshorn not Samson me

Made useless all the show of war,
Nor fought with ass's jaw for rarity,
With more success or singularity.
I saw our vet'ran thousands yield,
And pile their muskets on the field ;
And peasant guards, in rueful plight,
March off our captive bands from fight ;
While every rebel-life in play,
To Yankey-doodle tun'd its lay,
And, like the music of the spheres,
Mellifluous sooth'd their vanquish'd ears.

“ Alas !” said I, “ what baleful star
Sheds fatal influence on the war,
And who that chosen chief of fame,
That heads that grand parade of shame ?

“ There see how fate,” great Malcolm cry'd,
“ Strikes with its bolts the tow'rs of pride.
Behold that martial macaroni,
Compound of Phœbus and Bellona,
With warlike sword and singsong lay,
Equipp'd alike for feast or fray,
Where equal wit and valor join ;
This, this is he, the fam'd Burgoyne :
Who pawn'd his honor and commission,
To coax the patriots to submission,
By songs and balls secure obedience,
And dance the ladies to allegiance.

Oft his camp muses he'll parade
At Boston in the grand blockade ;
And well invoc'd with punch of arrack,
Hold converse sweet in tent or barrack
Inspir'd in more heroic fashion,
Both by his theme and situation ;
While Farce and Proclamation grand,
Rise fair beneath his plastic hand.
For genius swells more strong and clear
When close confin'd like bottled beer :
So Prior's wit gain'd greater pow'r
By inspiration of the tow'r ;
And Raleigh, fast in prison hurl'd,
Wrote all the Hist'ry of the World :
So Wilkes grew, while in jail he lay,
More patriotic ev'ry day ;
But found his zeal, when not confin'd
Soon sink below the freezing point,
And public spirit once so fair,
Evaporate in open air.
But thou, great favorite of Venus,
By no such luck shall cramp thy genius
Thy friendly stars, till wars shall cease
Shall ward th' ill fortune of release,
And hold thee fast, in bonds not feeble
In good condition still to scribble.
Such merit fate shall shield from fair

Bomb, carcass, langridge, and cold iron ;
Nor trusts thy doubly-laurel'd head,
To rude assaults of flying lead.
Hence, in the Saratogue retreat,
For pure good fortune thou'lt be beat ;
Not taken oft, releas'd or rescu'd
Pass for small change, like simple Prescott ;*
But captur'd there, as fates befall,
Shall stand thy hand for't, once for all.
Then raise thy daring thoughts sublime,
And dip thy conqu'ring pen in rhyme,
And, changing war for puns and jokes,
Write new blockades, and Maids of Oaks."†

This said, he turn'd, and saw the tale
Had dy'd my trembling cheeks with pale ;
Then, pitying, in a milder vein,
Pursu'd the visionary strain.

" Too much, perhaps, hath pain'd your views
Of vict'ries gain'd by rebel crews ;
Now see the deeds, not small nor scanty,
Of British valor and human'ty ;
And learn from this auspicious sight,
How England's sons and friends can fight,

* General Prescott was taken and exchanged several times during the war.

† " The Maid of the Oaks, and the Blockade of Boston are farces—the first acknowledged by General Burgoyne, the other generally ascribed to him."

M'FINGAL.

In what dread scenes their courage grows,
And how they conquer all their foes."

I look'd, and saw, in wintry skies,
Our spacious prison-walls arise,
Where Britons all their captives taming,
Piled them with scourging, cold, and famine;
Reduc'd to life's concluding stages,
By noxious food and plagues contagious:
Aloft the mighty Loring* stood,
And thriv'd like Vampyre,† on their blood;
And counting all his gains arising,

* Loring was a Refugee from Boston, made commander of prisoners by General Howe. The consummate cruelty practised on the American prisoners under Loring's administration almost exceed the ordinary powers of man invention. If a simple statement of facts related thus near were properly drawn up and authentic, it would furnish the friends of humanity with new terror in contemplating the ravages of war; especially in contemplating the ravages of rebellion, and is certain distance from the eye of the nation. The conduct of the Turks in putting all prisoners to death is certainly more rational and humane, than that of the British for the three first years of the American war, the capture of Burgoyne. We except from observation, the conduct of Lord Dorchester, he acted on the common principles of war, as ed in Europe.

† "The notion of Vampyres is a superstition greatly prevailed in many parts of Europe; it is a dead body, which rises out of its grave and sucks the blood of the living."

Dealt daily rations out of poison.
Amid the dead that crowd the scene,
The moving skeletons were seen.
At hand our troops, in vaunting strains,
Insulted all their wants and pains,
And turn'd on all the dying tribe,
The bitter taunt and scornful gibe :
And British officers of might,
Triumphant at the joyful sight,
O'er foes disarm'd, with courage daring,
Exhausted all their tropes of swearing.
Around all stain'd with rebel blood,
Like Milton's lazar-house it stood,
Where grim Despair attended nurse,
And death was Gov'rnor of the house.
Amaz'd, I cried, "Is this the way
That British Valor wins the day?"
More had I said, in strains unwelcome,
Till interrupted thus by Malcolm :
Blame not," quoth he, "but learn the reason -
Of this new mode of conqu'ring treason.
Tis but a wise, politic plan,
To root out all the rebel clan ;
For surely treason ne'er can thrive,
Where not a soul is left alive :)
A scheme, all other chiefs to surpass,
And do the effectual work to purpose ;

For war itself is nothing further,
But th' art and mystery of murder,
And who most methods has essay'd;
Is the best Gen'ral of the trade,
And stands Death's Plenipotentiary,
To conquer, poison, starve and bury.
This Howe well knew, and thus began
(Despising Carlton's coaxing plan,
Who kept his pris'ners well and merry
And dealt them food like Commissary,
And by patroles and ransoms vain,
Dismiss'd them all to fight again :)
Whence his first captives, with great s
He tied up for his troops to fire at,*
And hop'd they'd learn, on foes thus ta
To aim at rebels without shaking.
Then, wise in stratagem, he plann'd
The sure destruction of the land,
Turn'd famine, sickness and despair,
To useful enginary of war,
Instead of cannon, musket, mortar,
Us'd pestilence, and death, and torture,
Sent forth the small-pox, and the great
To thin the land of every traitor,

* " This was done openly, and without censu
troops under Howe's command, in many instan
first conquest of Long-Island."

And order'd out, with like endeavour,
Detachments of the prison fever ;
Spread desolation o'er their head,
And plagues in Providence's stead,
Perform'd with equal skill and beauty,
Th' avenging angel's tour of duty,
Brought all the elements to join,
And stars t' assist the great design ;
As once in league with Kishon's brook,
Fam'd Israel's foes they fought and took.
Then proud to raise a glorious name,
And em'lous of his country's fame,
He bade these prison walls arise,
Like temple tow'ring to the skies,
Where British clemency renown'd,
Might fix her seat on sacred ground ;
(That virtue, as each herald saith,
Of whole blood kin to Punic faith ;)
Where, all her godlike pow'rs unveiling,
She finds a grateful shrine to dwell in.
Then, at this altar for her honor,
Chose this High-Priest to wait upon her,
Who, with just rights, in ancient guises,
Presents these human sacrifices ;
Great Loring, fam'd above all laymen,
A proper Priest for Lybian Ammon,

Who, while Howe's gift his brows adorns,
Had match'd that deity in horns.
Here ev'ry day her vot'ries tell,
She more devours than th' idol Bel ;
And thirsts more rav'nously for gore,
Than any worshipp'd Power before.
That ancient Heathen Godhead, Moloch,
Of stay'd his stomach with a bullock,
Or if his morning rage you'd check first,
One child suffic'd him for 'a breakfast.
But British clemency, with zeal,
Devours her hundreds at a meal ;
Right well by Nat'ralists defin'd,
A being of carniv'rous kind :
So erst Gargantau* pleas'd his palate,
And ate his pilgrims up for sallad.
Not blest with maw less ceremonious,
The wide mouth'd whale that swallow
Like earthquake gapes, to death devour
That open sepulchre, her throat ;
The grave, or barren womb you'd st
And sooner bring to cry, enough ;
Or fatten up to fair condition,
The lean-flesh'd kine of Pharaoh's
" Behold her temple, where it
Erect by fam'd Britannic hands ;
* " See Rabelais's History of the G

'Tis the black hole of Indian structure,
New built with English architecture,
On plan, 'tis said, contriv'd and wrote
By Clive, before he cut his throat ;
Who, ere he took himself in hand,
Was her High-Priest in nabob-land :
And when with conqu'ring glory crown'd,
He'd well enslav'd the nation round,
With pitying heart, the gen'rous chief,
(Since slav'ry's worse than loss of life,)
Bade desolation circle far,
And famine end the work of war ;
Thus loos'd their chains, and for their merits,
Dismiss'd them free to worlds of spirits ;
Whence they, with gratitude and praise,
Return'd,* t' attend his latter days,
And, hov'ring round his restless bed,
Spread nightly visions o'er his head,
 " Now turn," he cried, " to nobler sights,
And mark the prowess of our fights :
Behold, like whelps of British lion,
The warriors, Clinton, Vaughan, and Tryon,
March forth with patriotic joy,
To ravish, plunder, burn, destroy.

* " Clive, in the latter years of his life, conceived himself perpetually haunted by the ghosts of those, who were the victims of British humanity in the East-Indies."

Great gen'als, foremost in the nation,
The journeymen of Desolation !
Like Samson's foxes, each assails,
Let loose with firebrands in their tails,
And spread destruction more forlorn,
Than they did in Philistine corn.
And see ! in flames their triumphs rise,
Illuming all the nether skies,
And streaming, like a new Aurora,
The western hemisphere with glory !
What towns, in ashes laid confess
These heroes' prowess and success !
What blacken'd walls, or burning fane,
For trophies spread the ruin'd plain !
What females, caught in evil hour,
By force submit to British pow'r,
Or plunder'd negroes, in disaster,
Confess King George their Lord and Mas
What crimson corses strew their way,
Till smoking carnage dims the day !
Along the shore, for sure reduction,
They weild their besom of destruction.
Great Homer likens, in his Ilias,
To dog-star bright the fierce Achilles ;
But ne'er beheld, in red procession,
Three dog-stars rise in constellation ;
Or saw in glooms of ev'ning misty,

uch signs of fiery triplic'ty,
Which, far beyond the comet's tail,
Portend destruction where they sail.
Oh ! had Great-Britain's godlike shore
Produc'd but ten such heroes more,
'They'd spar'd the pains, and held the station
Of this world's final conflagration,
Which, when its time comes, at a stand,
Would find its work all done t' its hand !

“ Yet though gay hopes our eyes may bless,
Indignant fate forbids success ;
Like morning dreams, our conquest flies,
Dispers'd before the dawn arise.”

Here Malcolm paus'd ; when, pond'ring long,
Grief thus gave utt'rance to my tongue :

“ Where shrink in fear our friends dismay'd,
And all the Tories' promis'd aid ?
Can none, amid these fierce alarms,
Assist the pow'r of royal arms ?”

“ In vain,” he cried, “ our King depends
On promis'd aid of Tory-friends.
When our own efforts want success,
Friends ever fail, as fears increase.
As leaves in blooming verdure wove,
In warmth of summer clothe the grove ;
But when autumnal frosts arise,

Leave bare their trunks to wintry skies :
 So while your pow'r can aid their ends,
 You ne'er can need ten thousand friends ;
 But, once in want, by foes dismay'd,
 May advertise them stol'n or stray'd.
 Thus, ere Great-Britain's strength grew apace
 She gain'd that aid she did not lack ;
 But now in dread imploring pity,
 All hear, unmov'd her dol'rous ditty ;
 Allegiance wand'ring turns astray,
 And Faith grows dim for lack of pay.
 In vain she tries by new inventions,
 Fear, falsehood, flattery, threats and pension
 Or sends Commiss'ners with credentials*

* The passage that here follows is to be explained
 In the year 1778, after the war had been raging three
 and the capture of Burgoyne's army was known in England,
 the British government concluded to give up all the
 for which the contest had been begun. It accordingly
 passed an act repealing all the acts of which the Americans
 complained, provided we would rescind our declaration
 of independence, and continue to be their Colonial
 ministry then sent over three commissioners, Lord
 Stone, Mr. Eden, and Lord Carlisle. These commissioners
 began their operations, and finished them by
 to bribe individuals among the members of the
 of the army. This bait appears to have caught
 but Arnold. The *petticoated politician*, here meant
 woman of Philadelphia, (and a lady of considerable
influence) through whose agency they offered a
 Joseph Read, Governor of Pennsylvania.

Of promises and penitentials.
 As, for his fare o'er Styx of old,
 The Trojan stole the bough of gold;
 And, lest grim Cerb'rus should make head,
 Stuff'd both his fobs with gingerbread,*
 Behold, at Britain's utmost shifts,
 Comes Johnstone, loaded with like gifts,
 To venture through the Whiggish tribe,
 To cuddle, wheedle, coax, and bribe,
 Enter their lands, and on his journey,
 Possession take, as King's attorney;
 Buy all the vassals to protect him,
 And bribe the tenants not t' eject him;
 And call, to aid his desp'rate mission,
 His petticoated politician;
 While Venus, join'd t' assist the farce,
 Strolls forth ambassador for Mars.
 In vain he strives, (for while he lingers,
 These mastiffs bite his off'ring fingers,)
 Nor buys for George and realms infernal,
 One spaniel, but the mongrel Arnold.
 'Twere vain to paint in vision'd show
 The mighty nothings done by Howe;
 What towns he takes in mortal fray,
 As stations whence to run away;
 What conquests gain'd in battles warm,
 * ——— Medicatam frugibus offam. *Æneid*, lib. vi. 4

To us no aid, to them no harm ;
 For still th' event alike is fatal,
 Whate'er success attend the battle,
 If he gain victory, or lose it,
 Who ne'er had skill enough to use it ;
 And better 'twere, at their expense,
 T' have drubb'd him into common sense,
 And wak'd, by bastings on his rear,
 Th' activity, though but of fear,
 By slow advance his arms prevail,
 Like emblematic march of snail ;
 That, be Millennium nigh or far,
 'Twould long before him end the war.,
 From York to Philadelphian ground,
 He sweeps the mighty flourish round,
 Wheel'd circ'lar by eccentric stars,
 Like racing boys at prison-bars ;*
 Who take the adverse crew in whole,
 By running round the opp'site goal ;
 Works wide the traverse of his course,
 Like ship in storms' opposing force ;
 Like mill-horse, circling in his race,
 Advances not a single pace,

* *Prison-bars* is a kind of juvenile contest described here. How far our author is justifying to it the operations of General Howe is left to be determined by those military men the history of his manœuvres.

And leaves no trophies of reduction,
 Save that of canker-worms, destruction.
 Thus, having long both countries curst,
 He quits them, as he found them first,
 Steers home disgrac'd, of little worth,
 To join Burgoyne, and rail at North." [ure,
 "Now raise thine eyes, and view with pleas-
 The triumphs of his fam'd successor."

I look'd, and now by magic lore,
 Faint rose to view the Jersey shore ;
 But dimly seen, in glooms array'd,
 For Night had pour'd her sable shade,
 And ev'ry star, with glimm'ring pale,
 Was muffled deep in evening veil :
 Scarce visible in dusky night,
 Advancing Red-Coats* rose to sight ;
 The lengthen'd train, in gleaming rows,
 Stole silent from their slumb'ring foes ;
 Slow mov'd the baggage, and the train,
 Like snails, crept noiseless o'er the plain ;
 No trembling soldier dar'd to speak,
 And not a wheel presum'd to creak.
 My looks my new surprise confess'd,
 Till by great Malcolm thus address'd :
 "Spend not thy wits in vain researches ;
 'Tis one of Clinton's moonlight marches.

* *Red-Coats*, a term for British troops.

From Philadelphia now retreating,
To save his anxious troops a beating,
With hasty stride he flies in vain,
His rear attack'd on Monmouth plain :
With various chance the mortal fray
Is lengthen'd to the close of day,
When his tir'd bands, o'ermatch'd in fight,
Are rescu'd by descending night,
He forms his camp with vain parade,
Till evening spreads the world with shade,
Then still, like some endanger'd spark,
Steals off on tiptoe in the dark ;
Yet writes his king, in boasting tone,
How grand he march'd by light of moon.*
I see him, but thou canst not ; proud
He leads in front the trembling crowd,
And wisely knows, if danger's near,
'Twill fall the heaviest on his rear.
Go on, great Gen'ral, nor regard
The scoffs of ev'ry scribbling bard,
Who sing how Gods that fatal night
Aided by miracles your flight,
As once they us'd, in Homer's day,

* The circumstance of Gen. Clinton's official dispatches, giving an account of his marching from Monmouth moon-light, furnished a subject of some pleasantry in America ; where it was known that the moon had set *several hours before the march began.*

To help weak heroes run away ;
 Tell how the hours at awful trial,
 Went back, as erst on Ahaz' dial,
 While British Joshua stay'd the moon,
 On Monmouth plains, for Ajalon :
 Heed not their sneers and gibes so arch,
 Because she set before your march.
 A small mistake, your meaning right,
 You take her influence for her light ;
 Her influence, which shall be your guide,
 And o'er your Gen'ralship preside.
 Hence still shall teem your empty skull,
 With vict'ries when the moon's at full,
 Which by transition yet more strange,
 Wane to defeats before the change ;
 Hence all your movements, all your notions,
 Shall steer by like eccentric motions,
 Eclips'd in many a fatal crisis,
 And dimm'd when Washington arises.

“ And see how fate herself, turn'd traitor,
 Inverts the ancient course of nature,
 And changes manners, tempers, climates,
 To suit the genius of the times.
 See Bourbon forms his gen'rous plan,
 First guardian of the rights of man,
 And prompt in firm alliance joins,
 To aid the Rebels proud designs,

Behold from realms of eastern day,
His sails innum'rous shape their way,
In warlike line the billows sweep,
And roll the thunders of the deep.
See, low in equinoctial skies,
The Western Islands fall their prize.
See British flags o'ermatch'd in might,
Put all their faith in instant flight ;
Or broken squadrons from th' affray,
Drag slow their wounded hulks away.
Behold his chiefs in daring sets,
D'Estaings, De Grasses, and Fayette's,
Spread through our camps their dread alarm
And swell the fears of rebel-arms.
Yet, ere our empire sink in night,
One gleam of hope shall strike the sight ,
As lamps that fail of oil and fire,
Collect one glimm'ring to expire.
And lo ! where southern shores extend,
Behold our union'd host descend,
Where Charlestown views, with varying be:
Her turrets gild th' encircling streams.
There, by superior might compell'd,
Behold their gallant Lincoln yield,*

* General Lincoln was second in command in the
of General Gates, during the campaign of 1777, which
ed in the capture of General Burgoyne. He is an of
great reputation. He afterwards commanded the

Nor aught the wreaths avail him now,
Pluck'd from Burgoyne's imperious brow.
See, furious from the vanquish'd strand,
Cornwallis leads his mighty band !
The southern realms and Georgian shore
Submit, and own the victor's pow'r.
Lo, sunk before his wasting way,
The Carolinas fall his prey !
In vain embattled hosts of foes
Essay in warring strife t' oppose.
See, shrinking from his conqu'ring eye,
The rebel legions fall or fly ;
And with'ring in these torrid skies,
The northern laurel fades and dies.*
With rapid force he leads his band
To fair Virginia's fated strand,
Triumphant eyes the travell'd zone,
And boasts the southern realms his own.
Nor yet this hero's glories bright
Blaze only in the fields of fight ;
Not Howe's human'ty more deserving,
In gifts of hanging, and of starving ;
Not Arnold plunders more tobacco,

South-Carolina, and was taken prisoner with the garrison of
Charlestown in 1780,

* This refers to the fortune of General Gates, who after
having conquered General Burgoyne in the North, was de-
feated by Lord Cornwallis in the South.

Or steals more negroes for Jamaica
 Scarce Rodney's self among th' base
 Insults so well the laws of nations ;
 Ev'n Tryon's fame grows dim, and now
 He yields the laurel crown of burning
 I see with rapture and surprise,
 New triumphs sparkling in thine eye
 But view, where now renew'd in might
 Again the rebels dare the fight."

I look'd, and far in southern skies,
 Saw Greene, their second hope, arise
 And with his small but gallant band,
 Invade the Carolinian land.
 As winds in stormy circles whirl'd,
 Rush billowing o'er the darken'd world
 And, where their wasting fury roves,
 Successive sweep th' astonish'd groves
 Thus where he pours the rapid fight,
 Our boasted conquests sink in night,
 And wide o'er all th' extended field,
 Our forts resign, our armies yield,

† Arnold, in the year 1781, having been in
 the cause of Great-Britain, commanded a detachment
 of their army in Virginia ; where he plundered a
 quantity of negroes and of tobacco, and sent them to
 his own account. How far the Lords Rodney
 and Wallis might have excelled him in this kind
 of achievements, time will perhaps never discover

ill, now regain'd the vanquish'd land,
 e lifts his standard on the strand.

Again to fair Virginia's coast,
 turn'd and view'd the British host,
 /here Chesapeak's wide waters lave
 er shores, and join th' Atlantic wave.
 here fam'd Cornwallis tow'ring rose,
 nd scorn'd secure his distant foes ;
 is bands the haughty rampart raise,
 nd bid the royal standard blaze.

/hen lo, where ocean's bounds extend,
 saw the Gallic sails ascend,
 /ith fav'ring breezes stem their way,
 nd crowd with ships the spacious bay.
 o, Washington, from northern shores,
 /er many a region, wheels his force,
 nd Rochambeau, with legions bright,
 descends in terrors to the fight.

lot swifter cleaves his rapid way,
 /he eagle cow'ring o'er his prey,
 /r knights in fam'd romance that fly
 /n fairy pinions through the sky.
 Amaz'd, the Briton's startled pride
 sees ruin wake on ev'ry side ;
 And, all his troops to fate consign'd,
 /y instantaneous stroke Burgoyne'd.
 /ot Cadmus view'd with more surprise,

From earth embattled armies rise,
 When, by superior pow'r impell'd,
 He sow'd with dragon's teeth the field
 Here Gallic troops in terror stand,
 There rush in arms the rebel band ;
 Nor hope remains from mortal fight,
 Or that last British refuge, flight.
 I saw, with looks downcast and grave
 The Chief emerging from his cave,*
 (Where, chac'd like hare in mighty r
 His hunters earth'd him first in grow
 And doom'd by Fate to rebel away,
 Yield all his captur'd hosts a prey.

There, while I view'd the vanquish
 Thus with a sigh my friend went on :
 " Behold'st thou not that band forlorn,
 Like slaves in Roman triumphs borne
 Their faces length'ning with their feet
 And cheeks distain'd with streams of
 Like *dramatis personæ* sage,
 Equipt to act on Tyburn's stage ?
 Lo, these are they, who, lur'd by follie
 Left all and follow'd great Cornwallis
 True to their King, with firm devotio
 For conscience sake, and hop'd prom
 * " Alluding to the well-known fact of
 taking up his residence in a cave during the
 town."

Expectant of the promis'd glories,
And new Millennial state of Tories.
Alas ! in vain, all doubts forgetting,
They tried th' omnipotence of Britain ;
But found her arm once strong and brave,
So shorten'd now she cannot save.
Not more aghast departed souls,
Who risk'd their fate on Popish bulls,
And find St. Peter at the wicket
Refuse to countersign their ticket,
When driv'n to purgatory back,
With all their pardons in their pack :
Than Tories must'ring at their stations
On faith of royal proclamations.
As Pagan chiefs at ev'ry crisis,
Confirm'd their leagues by sacrifices,
And herds of beasts to all their deities,
Oblations fell at close of treaties :
Cornwallis thus, in ancient fashion,
Concludes his league of cap'tulation,
And victims due to rebel glories,
Gives this sin-off'ring up of Tories.
See where, reliev'd from sad embargo,
Steer off consign'd a recreant cargo,
Like old scape-goats to roam in pain,
Mark'd like their great forerunner Cain.

The rest now doom'd by British leagues,
 To justice of resentful Whigs,
 Hold worthless lives on tenure ill,
 Of tenancy at Rebel will,
 While hov'ring o'er their forfeit persons,
 The gallows waits his sure reversions.

"Thou too, M'Fingal, ere that day,
 Shalt taste the terrors of th' affray.
 See ! o'er thee hangs in angry skies,
 Where Whiggish constellations rise,
 And while plebeian signs ascend,
 Their mob-inspiring aspects bend,
 That baleful Star, whose horrid* hair
 Shakes forth the plagues of down and tar &
 I see the pole, that rears on high
 Its flag terrific through the sky ;
 The mob beneath prepar'd t' attack,
 And tar predestin'd for thy back !
 Ah ! quit, my friend, this dang'rous home,
 Nor wait the darker scenes to come ;
 For know that Fate's auspicious door,
 Once shut to flight is op'd no more,
 Nor wears its hinge by various stations,
 Like Mercy's door in proclamations.†

* " ——— From his horrid hair
 Shakes pestilence and war."

Milton.

† The door of mercy is now open, and the door of mercy &
 shut, were phrases so often used in the proclamations

“ But lest thou pause, or doubt to fly,
To stranger visions turn thine eye :
Each cloud that dimm'd thy mental ray,
And all the mortal mists decay ;
See more than human pow'rs befriend,
And lo, their hostile forms ascend !
See, tow'ring o'er th' extended strand,
The Genius of the western land,
In vengeance arm'd, his sword assumes,
And stands like Tories, drest in plumes.
See, o'er yon Council seat with pride,
How Freedom spreads her banners wide !
There Patriotism with torch address'd,
To fire with zeal each daring breast !
While all the Virtues in their band
Escape from yon unfriendly land,
Desert their ancient British station,
Possess'd with rage of emigration.
Honor, his business at a stand,
For fear of starving, quits the land ;
And Justice, long disgrac'd at Court, had
By Mansfield's sentence been transported.
Vict'ry and Fame attend their way,
Though Britain wish their longer stay,
Care not what George or North would be at,

*British Generals in America, that our Feet speak to fear,
that the hinge of that door will be worn out.*

Nor heed their writs of *ne exeat* ;
 But fir'd with love of colonizing,
 Quit the fall'n empire for the rising."

I look'd, and saw, with horror smitten,
 These hostile pow'rs averse to Britain.
 When lo ! an awful spectre rose,
 With languid paleness on his brows ;
 Wan dropsies swell'd his form beneath,
 And ic'd his bloated cheeks with death ;
 His tatter'd robe expos'd him bare,
 To ev'ry blast of ruder air ;
 On two weak crutches propp'd he stood
 That bent at ev'ry step he trod ;
 Gilt titles grac'd their sides so slender,
 One, " Regulation," t'other, " Tender ;"
 His breast-plate grav'd with various date
 " The faith of all th' United States :"
 Before him went his funeral pall ;
 His grave stood dug to wait his fall.
 I started, and aghast I cry'd,

" What means this spectre at their side
 What danger from a Pow'r so vain,
 And why he joins that splendid train ?"

" Alas !" great Malcolm cry'd, " exp
 Might teach you not to trust appearance
 Here stands, as drest by fierce Bellona,
 The ghost of Continental Money,

Of dame Necessity descended,
 With whom Credulity engender'd:
 Though born with constitution frail,
 And feeble strength that soon must fail;
 Yet strangely vers'd in magic lore,
 And gifted with transforming pow'r,
 His skill the wealth Peruvian joins
 With diamonds of Brazilian mines.
 As erst Jove fell by subtle wiles,
 On Danaë's apron through the tiles,
 In show'rs of gold: his potent hand
 Shall shed like show'rs through all the land,
 Less great the magic art was reckon'd
 Of tallies cast by Charles the Second,
 Or Law's fam'd Mississippi schemes,
 Or all the wealth of South-Sea dreams.
 For he, of all the world alone,
 Downs the long-sought Philos'pher's Stone,
 Restores the fab'lous times to view,
 And proves the tale of Midas true.
 O'er heaps of rags he waves his wand,
 All turn to gold at his command.
 Provide for present wants and future,
 Raise armies, victual, clothe, accoutre,
 Adjourn our armies by essoigne,
 Check Howe's advance, and take Burgoyne,
 Then make all days of payment vain,

And turns all backs to rags again.
In vain great Howe shall play his part,
To ape and counterfeit his art ;
In vain shall Clinton more belated,
A conj'rer turn to imitate it ;
With like ill luck and pow'r's as narrow,
They'll fare like sorc'ers of old Pharaoh,
Who, though the art they understood,
Of turning rivers into blood,
And caus'd their frogs and snakes t' exist,
That with some merit croak'd and hiss'd,
Yet ne'er by ev'ry quaint device
Could frame the true Mosaic lice.
He for the Whigs his arts shall try,
Their first, and long their sole ally ;
A patriot firm, while breath he draws,
He'll perish in his country's cause ;
And when his magic labours cease,
Lie bury'd in eternal peace.

“ Now view the scenes in future hours,
That wait the fam'd European Pow'rs.
See ! where yon chalky cliffs arise,
The hills of Britain strike your eyes :
Its small extension long supply'd
By vast immensity of pride ;
So small, that had it found a station
In this new world at first creation,

Or were by Justice doom'd to suffer,
And for its crimes transported over,
We'd find full room for't in Lake Erie, or
That larger water-pond, Superior,*
Where North, on margin taking stand,
Would not be able to spy land.
No more, elate with pow'r at ease
She deals her insults round the seas ;
See ! dwindling from her heighth amain,
What piles of ruin spread the plain ;
With mould'ring hulks her ports are fill'd,
And brambles clothe the cultur'd field !
See, on her cliffs her Genius lies,
His handkerchief at both his eyes,
With many a deep-drawn sigh and groan,
To mourn her ruin and his own !
While joyous Holland, France, and Spain,
With conqu'ring navies rule the main,

* This supposition, so far as it respects Lake Superior, is not exaggerated. That Lake is 2200 miles in circumference. It is supposed by some, that in this passage the Author meant to ridicule the misfortune of Lord North, in the loss of his sight. But as this poem was written and published, word for word, as in this edition, several years before that misfortune happened, the Author must be innocent of the least design upon any thing more than mental blindness. There is no allusion to any other eyes in his lordship than the eyes of his understanding, which were supposed, by some people, at that time to be wonderfully dim; especially when considered as belonging to the Argus of a great nation.

Russian banners, wide unfurl'd,
 And commerce round the eastern world;
 See (sight hateful and tormenting)
 Amer'can empire, proud and vaunting,
 In anarchy shall change her crisis,
 And fix her pow'r on firmer basis;
 Her glory, wealth, and fame ascend;
 Her commerce rise, her realms extend;
 Here now the panther guards his den,
 Her desert forests swarm with men,
 Her cities, tow'rs and columns rise,
 And dazzling temples meet the skies;
 Her pines descending to the main,
 In triumph spread the wat'ry plain;
 Ride inland lakes with far'ring gales,
 And crowd her ports with whit'ning sails,
 Till to the skirts of western day,
 The peopled regions own her sway."
 Thus far M'Fingal told his tale,
 When thund'ring shouts his ears assail,
 And straight a Tory that stood sentry,
 Aghast, rush'd headlong down the entry,
 And with wild outcry, like magician,
 Dispers'd the residue of vision:
 For now the whigs intell'gence found
 Of Tories must'ring under ground,
 And with rude bangs and loud uproar,

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'Can thunder furious at the door,
The lights put out, each Tory calls,
To cover him, on cellar walls,
Creeps in each box, or bin, or tub,
To hide his head from wrath of mob,
Or lurks where cabbage, in row.
Adorn'd the side with verdant show;
M'Fingal deemed it vain to stay,
And risk his bones in second fray;
But choose a grand retreat from foes,
In lit'ral sense, beneath their nose.
The window then, which none else knew,
He softly open'd and crept through,
And crawling slow in deadly fear,
By movements wise, made good his rear;
Then scorning all the fame of martyr,
For Boston took his swift departure;
Nor dared look back on fatal spot,
More than the family of Lot.
Not North, in more distress'd condition,
Out-voted first by Opposition; [tom
Nor good King George, when that dis phan-
Of Independence comes to haunt him,
Which hov'ring round by night and day,
Not all his conjurers yet can lay.
His friends, assembled for his sake,
He wisely left his pawn, at stake,
To tarring, feath'ring, kicks, and drubs
Of furious, disappointed mobs,
And with their forfeit hides to pay
For him, their leader crept away.
So when wise Noah sommon'd, greeting,
All animals to general meeting,
From ev'ry side the members sent
All kinds of beast to represent;
Each from the flood took care to embark,
And save his carcass in the ark;
But as it fares in state and church,
Left his constituents in the lurch.

FINIS.









This book is under no circumstances to be taken from the Building

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